

United Healthcare filed suit against two CLIA-licensed Texas labs, Sun Clinical Laboratories and Mission Toxicology, who are alleged to have received \$44 million in improper claims from the insurance company.

United alleges the labs used kickbacks to induce providers to send specimens to the two labs. United further alleges the labs set up testing centers within rural in-network hospitals and billed United to make it seem the hospitals were billing United rather than the out-of-network labs. When United paid the hospitals, it alleges the labs told the hospitals to give 95% of the payment to the labs or their related entities. Sun Clinical Labs and Mission Toxicology labs performed few of the lab services at issue and paid out-of-network labs to perform the services.

United reimbursed for testing that was either never performed, never ordered, never performed as ordered, and/or for which members or providers never received test results. Toxicology testing & allergy testing are the types of testing for which Sun Clinical and Mission Toxicology fraudulently billed.

Two other companies, Aetna and Aetna Life Insurance Company and BCBS of Mississippi have previously filed suit against the labs alleging fraudulent billing.