

Supplemental CMS Episode Groups Posting

As required by section 1848(r) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 101(f) of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), Pub. L. 114-10, enacted April 16, 2015, CMS posted for public comment on October 15, 2015 the CMS Episode Groups Summary document and supporting technical documentation. The purpose of that document was to provide background and context to solicit stakeholder input on the episode groups that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed pursuant to section 1848(n)(9) of the Social Security Act.

An initial set of 34 episode groups was posted on our website on October 15, 2015, and was designated as Method A. Method B was developed by the Center for Medicare to complement those efforts and provide a robust measure set in the Supplemental QRUR reports. At the time of the posting, CMS was in the middle of developing additional Method A episode groups and has since completed them. The final set of 57 Method A episode groups and the accompanying documentation are now being posted for public comment.

The initial Episode Groups posted on October 15, 2015 and the additional supplemental materials for this posting (which include detailed codes and additional descriptive materials on the episode groups developed by CMS) are available for review at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/MACRA-Feedback.html>

While CMS is continuing to engage in ongoing research and development on ways to improve the design of episode groups and resource use measures, CMS recognizes the importance of obtaining public input and feedback on the process and methodology used to develop episode groups for use in resource use measurement. CMS seeks comments on the episode groups listed in Appendix A and described in the supplemental materials and welcomes feedback on methodologies and other aspects of the episode groups. Please submit comments to episodegroups@cms.hhs.gov by August 25, 2016.

Appendix A

Clinical Topic	Episode Group	Grouping Method
Breast		
	Mastectomy	A
Cardiovascular		
	Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) without PCI/CABG	A
	Aortic Aneurysm Procedure	B
	Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm	A*
	Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm	A*
	Open heart valve surgery	A
	Atrial Fibrillation (AFib)/Flutter, Acute Exacerbation	A
	Atrial Fibrillation (AFib)/Flutter, Chronic	A*
	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)	A
	Heart Failure, Acute Exacerbation	A
	Heart Failure, Chronic	A*
	Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), Chronic	A*
	Percutaneous Cardiovascular Intervention (PCI)	A
	Cardiac catheterization	A*
Cerebrovascular		
	Ischemic Stroke, acute	A
	Cerebrovascular disease, occlusive/nos	A*
	Transient ischemic attack	A*
Gastrointestinal		
	Gastrointestinal (GI) Hemorrhage	B
	Cholecystectomy	A*, B
	Cholecystitis	A*
	Colectomy	A*
	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> Colitis	A*
	Colonoscopy	A*, B
	Diverticulitis of Colon	A*
	EGD endoscopy	A*
Genitourinary		
	Transurethral Resection of the Prostate (TURP) for Benign Prostatic	A*, B

Clinical Topic	Episode Group	Grouping Method
	Hyperplasia	
	Cystourethroscopy	A*
Infectious Disease		
	Cellulitis, trunk and extremities	A*, B
	Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	A*, B
Metabolic		
	Osteoporosis	A*
Neurology		
	Parkinson Disease	A*
Ophthalmology		
	Lens and Cataract Procedures	B
	Macular Degeneration	A*
	Cataract surgery IOL	A*
	Cataract surgery sec mem	A*
	Glaucoma surgery	A*
	Retina and vitreous procedures	A*
	Retina/choroid destructive therapy	A*
Musculoskeletal		
	Rheumatoid Arthritis	A*
	Fracture/dislocation treatment pelvis/hip/femur	A
	Hip Replacement	A*, B
	Knee Arthroscopy	A*, B
	Knee Replacement	A*
	Knee Joint Repair	B
	Lumbar and sacral spine surgery	A*, B
	Osteoarthritis	A*
	Spine stenosis/spondylosis cervical	A*
	Spine stenosis/spondylosis thoracic	A*
	Spine stenosis/spondylosis/spondylolisthesis	A*
	Spine stenosis/spondylosis lumbar	A*
	Shoulder rotator cuff repair	A*
Respiratory		
	Asthma/Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Acute Exacerbation	A

Clinical Topic	Episode Group	Grouping Method
	Asthma/Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Chronic	A*
	Pneumonia	A
	Pulmonary Embolism, Acute	A*
	Upper Respiratory Infection, Acute, Simple	A*
Vascular		
	Deep Venous Thrombosis of Extremity, NOS, Acute	A*
	Leg vein ablation	A*
	Leg revascularization	A*
	Leg vein angioplasty	A*
	AV fistula creation and revision	A*

* Denotes clinical episodes not implemented in 2014 Supplemental Quality and Resource Use Reports for physician groups, including new methodological approaches.