

## Acute Exacerbation of Asthma

### Episode Definition

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#### *Episode Trigger*

An acute exacerbation of asthma episode is triggered by an emergency department or inpatient medical claim with a primary diagnosis related to the presentation of an acute exacerbation of asthma.

#### *Episode Duration*

The episode duration is the timeframe from the date of the triggering claim through 30 days after discharge from the facility.

#### *Episode Services*

The episode will include the following services rendered within the duration of the episode:

- All services related to the triggering event (ED/inpatient facility, professional, diagnostic, pharmacy, etc.).
- Within the 30-day post-discharge period, all inpatient and outpatient facility services, professional services, related medications, treatment for post-discharge complications as well as readmissions or repeat ED visits.

### Principal Accountable Provider

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The Principal Accountable Provider (PAP) is the facility where the episode began.

### Episode Exclusions

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In addition to the *Global Exclusions* for all episodes, Episodes meeting any of the following criteria will be excluded:

- Patients who are less than age 5.
- Beneficiaries with ICU admissions greater than 3 days.

### Episode Adjustments

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For the purposes of determining a PAP's performance, the total cost attributable to the PAP for an episode is adjusted based on:

- Patient comorbidities and statistically significant risk factors that influence the cost of an episode (including indirectly related health conditions such as Dysphagia, Pneumonia, Chronic Respiratory Failure, Acidosis, and Obesity).
- The age of the patient.

### Quality and Utilization Measures

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The following measures are tracked for informational reporting purposes:

- Percent of patients with 3 or more asthma episodes within a year.
- Percent of episodes with an outpatient physician follow-up visit within 14 days post-discharge.
- Percent of episodes with an outpatient physician follow-up visit within 30 days post-discharge.
- Percent of episodes with appropriate prescription medication.
- Percent of episodes with a repeat asthma event within 14 days post-discharge.
- Percent of episodes with emergency department imaging services of the chest region.
- Percent of episodes with emergency department imaging services of non-chest regions.
- Average rate of inpatient admission.
- Average length of stay for inpatient admissions.