

Acute Exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Episode Definition

Episode Trigger

An acute exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) episode is triggered by an emergency department or inpatient medical claim with a primary diagnosis related to acute COPD exacerbation.

Episode Duration

The episode duration is the timeframe from the date of the triggering claim through 30 days after discharge from the facility or upon discharge from a COPD-relevant readmission occurring within the initial 30-day post-discharge period.

Episode Services

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

- During the triggering event (i.e., emergency room visit and/or duration of inpatient stay) all services related to the triggering event (ED/inpatient facility, professional, diagnostic, pharmacy, etc.) reflected by paid claims.
- Within the 30-day post-discharge period: all inpatient and outpatient facility services, professional services, and related medications, treatment for post-discharge complications, and readmissions or repeat ED visits.

Principal Accountable Provider

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

Episode Exclusions

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

- Patients who are intubated or have a tracheostomy during the episode.
- Patients with select cancers, heart disease, respiratory diseases.
- Patients with Inpatient Hospital ICU day greater than 3 days.

Episode Adjustments

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 Heart Failure, Pneumonia, Chronic Respiratory Failure and Obesity).
- The age of the patient.

Quality and Utilization Measures

The following measures are tracked for informational reporting purposes:

- Percent of patients with 3 or more COPD 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 a repeat COPD 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.