



Symmetry Procedure Episode Groups (PEG)

Evaluate clinical specialty performance

Health care organizations face a growing need to measure the value of health care provided by specialty surgeons and accommodate their unique procedural focus in that assessment. Whether that measurement informs network design, value-based payment or other initiatives, consistency and reliability are critical ingredients. Optum® Symmetry® Procedure Episode Groups® (PEG®) provide a valuable unit of analysis to help health care organizations better understand the cost and quality of surgical procedures. With a consistent methodology, PEG offers a number of opportunities to measure and compare the services related to procedural care:

- Understanding the prevalence and costs of key procedures
- Measuring procedure-related services across all sites and phases of care, including pre- and post-operative care
- Analyzing the cost and clinical characteristics of procedure episodes in the inpatient vs ambulatory setting
- Using procedure episodes to support bundled payment design
- Identifying complications of surgical procedures to inform value-based care arrangements
- Using measurement results to identify and reward high performers

Patient-centered episode design

PEG's grouping methodology follows patients across the continuum of care and provides mechanisms to navigate the entire spectrum of clinical care from simple elective procedures to complex, interdependent, staged interventions. The episodes allow for necessary variations in cost through severity-adjustment based upon patient-specific factors such as age, gender, health condition status and medical comorbidities. A higher severity score for an episode means a higher expected cost relative to other episodes of the same type.



Optum Symmetry PEG are the industry-first foundation for enhanced analysis by procedure.

Evaluate procedural specialists and facilities

Since surgical care requires a healthcare team with surgeons supported by nurses and other allied health professionals, PEG attributes episodes both to the primary surgeon in the case and also, where appropriate, to the facility that hosted the procedure. Through flexible attribution, PEG can more effectively support varied use cases including provider performance evaluation and bundle episode design.

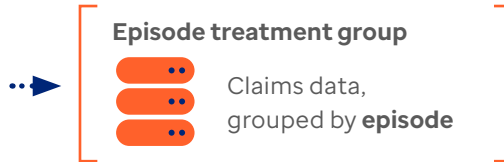
Leverage longstanding expertise

PEG complements the existing products within Symmetry, offering better value-based measurement support to providers and presenting a more complete solution in health care management. This unique product for health care measurement and analysis' grouping technology is built upon Symmetry® Episode Treatment Groups® (ETG®) and employs a methodology consistent with the other Symmetry products.

How it works

Claims data

- Diagnosis codes
- Drug codes
- Procedure codes



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Key benefits of PEG

PEG takes a unique approach to understanding surgical procedures by providing a consistent methodology for measuring value.

- Product flexibility allows you to choose measures that suit your specific business requirements.
- A wide range of easily consumed output files can be used in a multitude of use cases, including measuring value in surgical episodes, comparing resource utilization of providers, networks and health plans, assessing clinical specialists and gauging indicators of failed procedures.
- A content update service keeps pharmacy and medical code libraries up to date.
- Integration is seamless with other Symmetry component engines such as Episode Treatment Groups®, Episode Risk Groups®, Procedure Episode Groups® and Pharmacy Risk Groups®, without requiring multiple setups.
- Complete transparency of measure specifications and code sets ensure confidence in citing results to physicians.



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To learn more about how Symmetry PEG can help you understand the cost and quality of surgical procedures visit optum.com/symmetry.