

EQIP EPISODES OVERVIEW

An **EQIP Episode** is a defined period of care for a specific medical condition, procedure, or treatment under EQIP. The majority of EQIP episodes are constructed based on the Patient-Centered Episode System (PACES) methodology, but there are additional episodes created by the HSCRC in partnership with clinical subject matter experts.

Each episode will consist of the following periods:

Trigger	<p>An index hospital stay or procedure during which the initial care was performed.</p> <p>Defined by a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code for procedural episodes or International Classification of Diseases–Tenth Revision–Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) diagnosis code for acute episodes.</p>
Lookback Period	<p>The time period prior to the trigger in which all costs related to the trigger will be considered.</p>
Close Period	<p>The time period following the triggering event, during which all costs related to the trigger will be considered.</p>

EQIP episodes are constructed from the Claim and Claim Line Feed (CCLF) data provided by CMS to the State of Maryland.

- This data file contains Medicare final action claims for all Part A and Part B services received by beneficiaries who reside in Maryland, regardless of where services were rendered.
- The file also contains claims information on all Medicare-covered services furnished within Maryland to non-residents.
 - Please note non-residents are excluded from EQIP episode construction. The data do not include certain substance abuse claims excluded from the dataset under rules promulgated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (i.e., SAMHSA claims).

EQIP Entities can choose to participate in one or more clinical episode categories within one specialty area, or multiple clinical episode categories across more than one specialty area. However, EQIP Entities must meet a minimum clinical episode volume threshold to be eligible to participate in each type of EQIP episode.

For more information on PACES episodes and non-PACES episode construction, please visit the [EQIP Specifications and Methodology](#) guide.

