

EPISODE PLAYBOOK

The <u>EQIP Episode Playbook</u> provides an overview of each EQIP Episode. A playbook for each Performance Year will be created with Episode definitions and construction codes.



Episode Quality Improvement Program Episode Playbook
PACES Episode Definition Summaries

Version 5

Updated: July 2025

KEY COMPONENTS

DISCLAIMER: These episode summaries are provided to illustrate episode construction and help EQIP participants understand what is included in episode costs. Direct recreation of episodes will not be possible from these summaries. The codes included in each episode are independently developed and verified by the PACES Center.

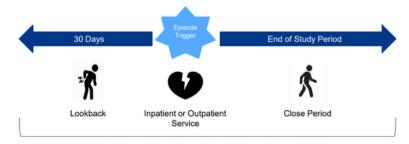
Episode Triggers

- An index hospital stay or procedure during which the initial care was performed.
 - 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.

PACES Episode	Code Type	Code					
Low Back Pain	ICD10	M5485	M5432	M4726	M4607	M4626	M4985
		M5487	M5431	M4727	M4608	M4655	M4986
		M5486	M5430	M4716	M4605	M4656	S338XXA
		M5493	M5457	M488X6	M4606	M4658	M4817
		M5490	M5456	M488X5	M4647	M4657	M4818
		M5497	M5455	M488X8	M4646	M4686	M4815
		M5496	M5459	M488X7	M4648	M4687	M4816
		M5495	M5458	S339XXA	M4645	M4685	M47818
		M62830	M5451	M9904	M4639	M4688	M47816
		M5385	M5450	M9903	M4637	M4695	M47817
		M5416	M4328	M435X5	M4638	M4698	M47898
		M5417	M4327	M435X9	M4636	M4696	M47896
		M5415	M4325	M435X8	M4635	M4697	M47897
		M5442	M4326	M435X7	M4627	M4988	M455
		M5441	S335XXA	M435X6	M4628	M4987	M458
		M5440	M4728	M081	M4625	M4989	M456

Episode Length

- Lookback period: The time period prior to the trigger in which all costs related to the trigger will be considered.
- Close period: The time period following the triggering event, during which all costs related to the trigger will be considered.



Total Episode Cost = All expected services and complication costs associated from episode trigger until the end of the close period.



