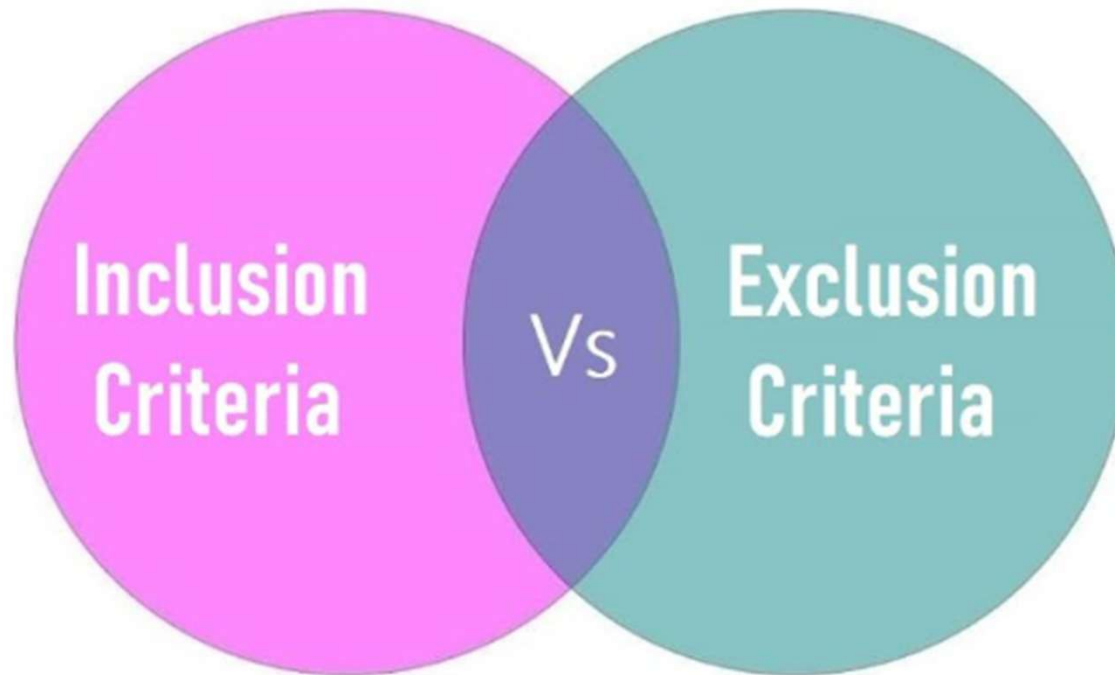


Frailty & Advanced Illness

Denominator Exclusions

Kathy Landgraf,
RN Healthcare Analyst

Differences Between Inclusion Criteria & Exclusion Criteria



Core Parts of a Clinical Quality Measure

Denominator (Inclusion): the population being measured. It is a given patient population that may be counted as eligible to meet a measure's inclusion requirements.

Numerator (Action): A subset of the denominator population (patients) for whom a process or outcome of care occurs. It represents a clinical action to be counted as meeting a measure's requirements (i.e. patients who received a particular service or obtained a particular outcome that is being measured).

Denominator Exclusion: refers to criteria that result in removal of patients from the denominator **before** calculating the numerator. Which means the numerator event is not applicable to those covered by the denominator exclusion.

An example is to “**exclude women who have had bilateral mastectomy from the denominator for a Breast Cancer Screening for a screening mammography.**”

Denominator Exclusions

Patients are excluded from a measure denominator based on their diagnosis and/or procedure code

- Captured in claim/encounter data

Examples:

Hospice

Death

Palliative Care

*Please note only certain measures are excluded not ***all*** measures

Patients 66 and older as of December 31st of the measurement

Either:

Enrolled in an Institutional Specials Needs Plan (I-SNP)

or

Living as a long-term care resident in a facility

Frailty & Advanced Illness – Denominator Exclusions

Frailty and Advanced illness exclusions are criteria used in healthcare quality measures to ensure that patients with limited life expectancy receive appropriate care without unnecessary burdens from tests or treatments that would provide little benefit to them and may even pose harm.

Patients 66 – 80 years of age as of December 31st within the measurement year:

• Frailty Criteria:

- At least **Two indications** of frailty codes with **different dates of service during the measurement (calendar) year**

Patient's must meet both Frailty and Advanced illness criteria to be excluded from a measure!

• Advanced Illness Criteria:

- **Two diagnosis codes** either of the following during the **measurement year or the year prior** to the measurement year **with different dates of service**

OR

- **Dispensed dementia medication**

Description	Prescription		
Cholinesterase inhibitors	• Donepezil	• Galantamine	• Rivastigmine
Miscellaneous central nervous system agents	• Memantine		
Dementia combinations	• Donepezil-memantine		

Measures affected by Frailty & Advanced Illness

Denominator Exclusions

- Breast Cancer Screening
- Colorectal Cancer Screening
- Controlling Blood Pressure
- Glycemic Status Assessment for Pts with Diabetes HbA1c
- Eye Exam for Patient with DM Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy
- Kidney Health Evaluation for patient with Diabetes
- Osteoporosis Management for Women with a Fracture
- Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

Frailty & Advanced Illness – Denominator Exclusions

- **Patients 81 years of age** (age of the patient is equivalent to Advanced Illness criteria) as of December 31st, of the measurement year
- At least **two codes** of **frailty** with different dates of service *during the measurement year*

Quality Measures removed by Frailty Denominator exclusions

- Controlling Blood Pressure
- Kidney Health Evaluation for patient with Diabetes
- Osteoporosis Management for Women with a Fracture

Patient Examples for Frailty & Advanced Illness Denominator Exclusions

02/13/26 Office Visit with Provider - Mrs. Smith age 67 y/o first visit of the year

Dx: E11.2 Type 2 DM with kidney complications

Dx I50.812 : Chronic Right Heart Failure (Advanced Illness code)

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

04/23/26 Telehealth Visit with Provider - Mrs. Smith second visit of the year

Dx: E11.2 Type 2 DM with kidney complications

Dx I50.812 : Chronic Right Heart Failure (Advanced Illness code)

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

1 – Patient is 67 yrs. old

2 – Two Advanced Illness diagnosis codes on different dates of service

3 – Two Frailty codes on different dates of service during the measurement year

Patient Examples for Frailty & Advanced Illness

Denominator Exclusions

05/28/25 Office Visit with Provider - Mr. Thomas age 70 y/o first visit of the year

Dx: E11.9 Type 2 DM without complications

Dx J84.112: Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (Advanced Illness code)

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

1/23/26 Telehealth Visit with Provider - Mr. Thomas second visit of the year

Dx: E11.9 Type 2 DM without complications

Dx J84.112: Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (Advanced Illness code)

Dx Z99.81 : Dependence on supplemental oxygen (Frailty code)

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

1 – Patient is 70 yrs old

2 – Two Advanced Illness diagnosis codes on different dates of service one during the current and one during the year prior to measurement year

3 – Two Frailty codes on the same date of service during the measurement year
and 1 Frailty code in the prior year

Patient Examples for Frailty & Advanced Illness Denominator Exclusions

06/12/26 Office Visit with Provider - Mrs. Lee age 83 y/o first visit of the year

Dx: I10 Primary Hypertension

Dx: E11.9 Type 2 Diabetes without complications

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

12/23/26 Telehealth Visit with Provider - Mrs. Lee second visit of the year

Dx: I10 Primary Hypertension

Dx: Z87.81 History of a healed traumatic fracture of femur

Dx: E11.9 Type 2 Diabetes without complications

Dx R53.1 : Weakness (Frailty code)

1 – Patient is 83 yrs old (Advanced Illness criteria based on age)

2 – Two Frailty codes on different dates of service during the measurement year

Frailty & Advanced Illness – Denominator Exclusions

Frailty and Advanced illness exclusions are essential components of healthcare quality measurement, allowing for a more accurate assessment of care provided to vulnerable populations. By focusing on appropriate care and ensuring proper documentation and coding, healthcare providers can enhance the quality of care for patients with advanced illnesses and frailty, ultimately improving health outcomes and patient satisfaction.

Star Measure exclusion criteria	Applicable HEDIS® Star Measure
66 years and older with both advanced illness and frailty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)• Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)• Eye Exam for Patients with Diabetes (EED)• Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients With Diabetes (GSD)• Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC)
66-80 years old with both advanced illness and frailty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP)• Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)
67-80 years old with both advanced illness and frailty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)
81 years and older with frailty alone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP)• Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)• Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)

Frailty Categories and Codes

Frailty consists of CPT, HCPCS, and ICD-10 codes.

Two Frailty codes will count on separate dates of service, and both need to occur within the measurement year.

Frailty		Frailty	
CPT® code*	Definition	HCPCS code	Definition
99504	Home visit for mechanical ventilation care	E0100, E0105	Cane
99509	Home visit for assistance with activities of daily living and personal care	E0130, E0135, E0140, E0141, E0143, E0144, E0147-9	Walker
		E0163, E0165, E0167, E0168, E0170, E0171	Commode chair
		E0250, E0251, E0255, E0256, E0260, E0261, E0265, E0266, E0270, E0290-7, E0301-4	Hospital bed
		E0424, E0425, E0430, E0431, E0433, E0434, E0435, E0439, E0440-4	Oxygen
		E0462	Rocking bed with or without side rails
		E0465, E0466	Home ventilator
		E0470-2	Respiratory assist device
		E1130, E1140, E1150, E1160, E1161, E1170, E1171, E1172, E1180, E1190, E1195, E1200, E1220, E1240, E1250, E1260, E1270, E1280, E1285, E1290, E1295-8	Wheelchair
		G0162, G0299, G0300, G0493, G0494	Skilled RN/LPN services related to home health/hospice setting
		S0271	Physician management of patient home care, hospice
		S0311	Management and coordination for advanced illness
		S9123, S9124, T1000-5, T1019-22, T1030, T1031	Nursing, respite care and personal care services

Frailty ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes

Frailty	
ICD-10-CM code	Definition
L89.000 - L89.96	Pressure ulcer
M62.50	Muscle wasting and atrophy, not elsewhere classified, unspecified state
M62.81	Muscle weakness (generalized)
M62.84	Sarcopenia
R26.2	Difficulty in walking, not elsewhere classified
R26.89	Other abnormalities of gait and mobility
R26.9	Unspecified abnormalities of gait and mobility
R53.1	Weakness
R53.81	Other malaise
R54	Age-related physical debility
R62.7	Adult failure to thrive
R63.4	Abnormal weight loss
R63.6	Underweight
R64	Cachexia

Frailty	
ICD-10-CM code	Definition
R29.6, W01.0XXA-W01.198S, W06.XXXA-W06.XXXS, W07.XXXA-W07.XXXS, W08.XXXA-W08.XXXS, W10.0XXA-W10.9XXS, W18.00XA-W18.39XS, W19.XXXA-W19.XXXS	Fall
Y92.199	Unspecified place in other specified residential institution as the place of occurrence of the external cause
Z59.3	Problems related to living in residential institution
Z73.6	Limitation of activities due to disability
Z74.01	Bed confinement status
Z74.09	Other reduced mobility
Z74.1	Need for assistance with personal care
Z74.2	Need for assistance at home and no other household member able to render care
Z74.3	Need for continuous supervision
Z74.8	Other problems related to care provider dependency
Z74.9	Problem related to care provider dependency, unspecified
Z91.81	History of falling
Z99.11	Dependence on respirator (ventilator) status
Z99.3	Dependence on wheelchair
Z99.81	Dependence on supplemental oxygen
Z99.89	Dependence on other enabling machines and devices

Advanced Illness ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes

Advanced illness	
ICD-10-CM code	Definition
A81.00-01, A81.09	Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
C25.0-4, C25.7-9	Malignant neoplasm of pancreas
C71.0-9	Malignant neoplasm of brain
C77.0-5, C77.8-9	Secondary and unspecified malignant neoplasm of lymph nodes
C78.00-02	Secondary malignant neoplasm of lung
C78.1	Secondary malignant neoplasm of mediastinum
C78.2	Secondary malignant neoplasm of pleura
C78.30, C78.39	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified or other respiratory organs
C78.4	Secondary malignant neoplasm of small intestine
C78.5	Secondary malignant neoplasm of large intestine and rectum
C78.6	Secondary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum and peritoneum
C78.7	Secondary malignant neoplasm of liver and intrahepatic bile duct
C78.80, C78.89	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified or other digestive organs
C79.00-02	Secondary malignant neoplasm of kidney and renal pelvis
C79.10-11, C79.19	Secondary malignant neoplasm of bladder and other urinary organs
C79.2	Secondary malignant neoplasm of skin
C79.31	Secondary malignant neoplasm of brain
C79.32	Secondary malignant neoplasm of cerebral meninges
C79.40, C79.49	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified or other parts of nervous system
C79.51-52	Secondary malignant neoplasm of bone or bone marrow
C79.60-63	Secondary malignant neoplasm of ovary

Advanced illness	
ICD-10-CM code	Definition
C79.70-72	Secondary malignant neoplasm of adrenal gland
C79.81-82	Secondary malignant neoplasm of breast or genital organs
C79.89, C79.9	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified or other sites
C91.00, C92.00, C93.00, C93.90, C93.Z0, C94.30	Leukemia not having achieved remission
C91.02, C92.02, C93.02, C93.92, C93.Z2, C94.32	Leukemia in relapse
F01.50, F01.511, F01.518, F01.52-F01.54, F01.A0, F01.A11, F01.A18, F01.A2-F01.A4, F01.B0, F01.B11, F01.B18, F01.B2-F01.B4, F01.C0, F01.C11, F01.C18, F01.C2-F01.C4, F02.80, F02.811, F02.818, F02.82-F02.84, F02.A0, F02.A11, F02.A18, F02.A2-F02.A4, F02.B0, F02.B11, F02.B18, F02.B2-F02.B4, F02.C0, F02.C11, F02.C18, F02.C2-F02.C4, F03.90-F03.911, F03.918, F03.92-F03.94, F03.A0, F03.A11, F03.A18, F03.A2-F03.A4, F03.B0, F03.B11, F03.B18, F03.B2-F03.B4, F03.C0, F03.C11, F03.C18, F03.C2-F03.C4, F10.27, F10.97	Dementia
F04	Amnesic disorder due to known physiological condition
F10.96	Alcohol-induced persisting amnesic disorder
G30.0, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9	Alzheimer's disease
G10	Huntington's disease
G12.21	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
G20	Parkinson's disease
G31.01, G31.09, G31.83	Degenerative diseases of the nervous system
G35	Multiple sclerosis
I09.81, I11.0, I13.0, I13.2, I50.1, I50.20-23, I50.30-33, I50.40-43, I50.810-814, I50.82-84, I50.89, I50.9	Heart failure
I12.0, I13.11, I13.2, N18.5, N18.6	Chronic kidney disease, stage 5
J43.0, J43.1, J43.2, J43.8, J43.9, J98.2, J98.3	Emphysema
J68.4	Chronic respiratory conditions due to chemicals, gases, fumes, and vapors
J84.10, J84.112, J84.170, J84.178	Pulmonary fibrosis
J96.10-12, J96.20-22, J96.90-92	Respiratory failure
K70.10, K70.11, K70.2, K70.30, K70.31, K70.40, K70.41, K70.9	Alcoholic hepatic disease
K74.00-02, K74.1, K74.2, K74.4, K74.5, K74.60, K74.69	Hepatic disease
N18.5, N18.6	End stage renal disease

Common Frailty Codes Used As Denominator Exclusions

Core Frailty & Debility Codes

- **R54:** Age-related physical debility (includes frailty, senescence, senile asthenia)
- **R62.7:** Adult failure to thrive
- **R64:** Cachexia

Muscle and Mobility Issues Codes

- **M62.81:** Muscle weakness (generalized)
- **M62.84:** Sarcopenia
- **R26.2:** Difficulty in walking, not elsewhere classified
- **R26.89:** Other abnormalities of gait and mobility
- **R26.9:** Unspecified abnormalities of gait and mobility

Common Frailty Codes Used As Denominator Exclusions

Symptoms and Related Conditions

- **R53.1:** Weakness
- **R53.81:** Other malaise
- **R63.4:** Abnormal weight loss
- **R63.6:** Underweight
- **L89.xxx:** Pressure ulcer (various specific codes)

Functional/Dependency Codes

- **Z91.81:** History of falling
- **R29.6:** Repeated falls
- **Z74.01:** Bed confinement status
- **Z74.09:** Other reduced mobility
- **Z99.3:** Dependence on wheelchair
- **Z99.81:** Dependence on supplemental oxygen
- **Z73.6:** Limitation of activities due to disability
- **Z99.89:** Dependence on other enabling machine or devices



Questions?

**Thank you for continuing
to provide safe, quality
patient care!**

Kathy Landgraf, RN Healthcare Analyst
klandgraf@opns.org
Cell: 248-229-1270