

Frailty and Advanced Illness Exclusion Criteria – Summary

This document outlines the criteria used to exclude certain patients from quality measures based on frailty and advanced illness. These exclusions ensure that performance measures are applied appropriately to populations with longer life expectancy and relevant clinical benefit.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) introduced these exclusions to ensure that standard quality measures are not inappropriately applied to patients with limited life expectancy, advanced illness, or significant frailty.

Eligibility Criteria for Exclusion

Patients must meet both of the following frailty and advanced illness criteria to qualify for exclusion:

1. Be the age of 66 years or older
2. Be eligible for advanced Illness (**one** of the following):
 - At least **two** diagnoses of advanced illness on different service dates within the measurement year or prior year
 - OR**
 - Prescribed/Fill of dementia-related medications (e.g., donepezil, galantamine, rivastigmine, memantine)
3. Frailty:
 - At least two indications of frailty on **different service dates within the measurement year**

Affected Quality Measures by Age Group:

Age Group	Excluded Measures if Documented Appropriately
66+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breast Cancer Screening (BCS-E) - Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E) - Eye Exam for Patients with Diabetes (EED) - Glycemic Status Assessment (GSD) - Statin Therapy for Cardiovascular Disease (SPC-E)
66–80	Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP) (age 18- Kidney Health Evaluation for Diabetes (KED)
67–80	Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)
81+ with 2 frailty codes	Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP) Kidney Health Evaluation for Diabetes (KED) Osteoporosis Management (OMW)

Coding Criteria

Exclusions are identified using specific ICD-10 codes for advanced illness and frailty. These codes must be documented according to the required frequency and timing criteria.

Advanced Illness ICD-10 Codes (HEDIS) – Quick Reference Table

Category	Subcategory	Code Ranges / Examples
Malignancies	Primary (Pancreas, Brain)	C25.0–C25.9; C71.0–C71.9
Malignancies	Metastatic (Secondary)	C77.0–C79.89
Malignancies	Leukemia	C91.00–C94.32
Neurological	Dementia	F01.50–F03.91, F04
Neurological	Neurodegenerative	G10, G12.21, G20, G30.0–G30.9, G31.01–G35
Cardiovascular	HTN Heart/Kidney Disease	I11.0, I12.0, I13.0–I13.2
Cardiovascular	Heart Failure	I50.20–I50.9
Pulmonary	Chronic Lung Disease	J43.0–J43.9, J68.4, J84.10–J84.112
Pulmonary	Respiratory Failure	J96.10–J96.92
Liver Disease	Alcohol-related	K70.10–K70.9
Liver Disease	Fibrosis/Cirrhosis	K74.0–K74.69
Renal	End-stage kidney disease	N18.5–N18.6
Other	Alcohol-related Cognitive	F10.27, F10.96, F10.97

ICD-10 Frailty Diagnosis Codes (Simplified)

Category	Subcategory	Code Range
Skin (Pressure Ulcers)	All sites/stages	L89.xxx
Musculoskeletal	Muscle wasting / sarcopenia	M62.50, M62.81, M62.84
Falls	All fall-related encounters	W01–W19
Symptoms/Mobility	Gait, weakness, cachexia	R26–R64
Social/Dependency	Care dependency & living status	Z59, Z73–Z74, Z91, Z99

HCPCS Frailty Device Codes (Simplified)

Category	Device Type	Code Range
Mobility Aids	Canes / Walkers	E0100–E0149
Beds	Hospital beds (all types)	E0250–E0304
Oxygen Equipment	Oxygen systems & supplies	E0424–E0444
Respiratory Devices	Ventilators / assist devices	E0465–E0472
Wheelchairs	All wheelchair types	E1130–E1298
Other Equipment	Commode chairs, etc.	E0163–E0171

CPT / HCPCS Frailty Encounter Codes (Simplified)

Category	Service Type	Code Range
Nursing Services	RN/LPN home care	G0162, G0299, G0300
Observation/Assessment	Skilled nursing eval	G0493–G0494
Care Management	Advanced illness mgmt.	S0311
Home Care Services	General care services	T1000–T1031
Other Encounters	Misc. care services	99504, 99509