



Quality Considerations

Guide to Advanced Illness and Frailty Exclusions

Claims coding impacts quality scores. It is just as important to code your claims to exclude patients who do not meet a measure's criteria as it is to include those who do.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) has identified additional exclusions to the measures set out in this guide. They determined that services recommended in the original definition may not benefit older adults with advanced illness limiting their ability to receive certain treatments. These exceptions impact the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Star measures for patients with advanced illness and frailty.

There are two types of code sets that need to be used to affectively exclude these members:

- Advanced illness codes
- Frailty codes

Timing Matters

To exclude a patient from impacted Star measures:

- Advanced illness codes must be submitted in the current or prior year to the measurement year.
- Frailty codes must be submitted in the current year.

Patients aged 66 and older should be excluded from the following quality measures if they have both advanced illness and frailty.

- Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)
- Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP)
- Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients with Diabetes (GSD)
- Eye Exam for Patients with Diabetes (EED)
- Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)
- Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)
- Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC)



Patients aged 81 and older should be excluded from the following quality measures based on their frailty alone.

- Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP)
- Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)
- Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)

Helpful Hints: Frailty

To qualify for a frailty exclusion, the patient must have at least two claims with a frailty diagnosis or treatment code on different dates of service.

Annual wellness exams and routine office visits offer opportunities to identify frailty conditions and document the appropriate ICD-10 codes.

Common frailty conditions that exist in the senior populations include:

- History of falling (Z91.81)
- Weakness (R53.1)
- Muscle weakness (M26.81)
- Other malaise (R53.81)
- Other fatigue (R53.83)
- Difficulty in walking (R26.2)

A complete list is included further down in this guide.

Helpful Hints: Advanced Illness

To qualify for an advanced illness exclusion, the patient must have at least one of the following:

- Two outpatient claims with an advanced illness code on different dates of service.
- One inpatient claim with an advanced illness code.
- One filled prescription for a dementia medication.

Best Practices for Advanced Illness and Frailty Exclusions

- Implementing a process to identify and add appropriate Advanced Illness and/or Frailty diagnosed for patients with upcoming appointments and/or during Patient Assessment Form completion.
- Share this guide your biller and instruct them to code your claims to capture these exclusions.
- If the documentation exists for an Advanced Illness and/or Frailty diagnosis from a previous visit and the diagnosis was not captured on the claim submitted, bill CPT® 99499 with the applicable Advanced Illness and/or Frailty ICD-10 code for that date of service.

Advanced Illness Diagnosis Codes	
ICD-10 Code	Definition
A81.00-01, A81.09	Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
C25.0-4, 7-9	Malignant neoplasm of pancreas
C71.0-8	Malignant neoplasm of various sites of brain
C71.9	Malignant neoplasm of brain, unspecified
C77.0-5, 8-9	Secondary and unspecified malignant neoplasm of lymph nodes
C78.00	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified lung
C78.01	Secondary malignant neoplasm of right lung
C78.02	Secondary malignant neoplasm of left lung
C78.1	Secondary malignant neoplasm of mediastinum
C78.2	Secondary malignant neoplasm of pleura
C78.30	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified respiratory organ
C78.39	Secondary malignant neoplasm of 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	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified digestive organ
C78.89	Secondary malignant neoplasm of other digestive organs
C79.00	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified kidney and renal pelvis
C79.01	Secondary malignant neoplasm of right kidney and renal pelvis
C79.02	Secondary malignant neoplasm of left kidney and renal pelvis
C79.10	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified urinary organs
C79.11	Secondary malignant neoplasm of bladder
C79.19	Secondary malignant neoplasm of 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	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified part of nervous system
C79.49	Secondary malignant neoplasm of other parts of nervous system
C79.51-52	Secondary malignant neoplasm of bone, bone marrow

Advanced Illness Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10 Code	Definition
C79.60-63	Secondary malignant neoplasm of ovary, bilateral ovaries
C79.70-72	Secondary malignant neoplasm of adrenal gland
C79.81	Secondary malignant neoplasm of breast
C79.82	Secondary malignant neoplasm of genital organs
C79.89	Secondary malignant neoplasm of other specified sites
C79.9	Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified site
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, F01.51, F02.80, F02.81, F03.90, F03.91, F10.27	Dementia
F04	Amnesic disorder due to known physiological condition
F10.96	Alcohol use, unspecified with alcohol-induced persisting amnesic disorder
F10.97	Alcohol use, unspecified with alcohol-induced persisting dementia
G10	Huntington's disease
G12.21	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
G20	Parkinson's disease
G30.0, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9	Alzheimer's disease
G31.01	Pick's disease
G31.09	Other frontotemporal dementia
G31.83	Dementia with Lewy bodies
G35	Multiple Sclerosis
I09.81, I11.0, I13.0, I13.2, I50.20, I50.21, I50.22, I50.23, I50.30, I50.31, I50.32, I50.33, I50.40, I50.41, I50.42, I50.43, I50.810, I50.811, I50.812, I50.813, I50.814, I50.82, I50.83, I50.84, I50.89, I50.9	Heart failure
I50.1	Left ventricular failure, unspecified
I12.0, I13.11, I13.2, N18.5	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, J84.17	Pulmonary fibrosis
J84.170, J84.178	Other Interstitial Pulmonary Diseases
J96.10, J96.11, J96.12, J96.20, J96.21, J96.22, J96.90, J96.91, J96.92	Respiratory failure
K70.10, K70.11, K70.2, K70.30, K70.31, K70.40, K70.41, K70.9	Alcoholic hepatic disease
K74.0, K74.1, K74.2, K74.4, K74.5, K74.60, K74.69	Hepatic disease
K74.00-02	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver
N18.6	End stage renal disease

Advanced Illness Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10 Code	Definition
L89.001-004, L89.006, L89.009-014, L89.016, L89.019-024, L89.026, L89.029, L89.100-104, L89.106, L89.109-114, L89.116, L89.119-124, L89.126, L89.129-134, L89.136, L89.139-144, L89.146, L89.149-154, L89.156, L89.159, L89.200-204, L89.206, L89.209-214, L89.216, L89.219-224, L89.226, L89.229, L89.300-304, L89.306, L89.309-314, L89.316, L89.319-324, L89.326, L89.329, L89.40-46, L89.500-504, L89.506, L89.509-514, L89.516, L89.519-524, L89.526, L89.529, L89.600-604, L89.606, L89.609-614, L89.616, L89.619-624, L89.626, L89.629, L89.810-814, L89.816, L89.819, L89.890-894, L89.896, L89.899, L89.90-96	Pressure Ulcer

Frailty CPT Codes

CPT® II Code	Definition
99504	Home visit for mechanical ventilation care
99509	Home visit for assistance with activities of daily living

Frailty HCPCS Codes

HCPCS Code	Definition
E0100, E0105	Cane
E0130, E0135, E0140, E0141, E0143, E0144, E0147-9	Walker
E0163, E0165, E0167-71	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
E0561, E0562	Humidifier used with positive airway pressure device
E1130, E1140, E1150, E1160, E1161, E1240, E1250, E1260, E1270, E1280, E1285, E1290, E1295-8	Wheelchair
G0162, G0299, G0300, G0493, G0494	Skilled RN services related to home health/hospice setting
S0271	Physician management of patient home care, hospice
S0311	Comprehensive management and care coordination for advanced illness
S9123, S9124, T1000-5, T1019, T1020, T1021, T1022, T1030, T1031	Nursing care, respite care and personal care services

Frailty ICD-10 Codes

ICD-10 Code	Definition
M62.50	Muscle wasting and atrophy, not elsewhere classified, unspecified site
M62.81	Muscle weakness (generalized)
M62.84	Sarcopenia
R26.0	Ataxic gait
R26.1	Paralytic gait
R26.2	Difficulty in walking, not elsewhere classified
R26.89	Other abnormalities of gait and mobility
R26.9	Unspecified abnormalities of gait and mobility
R41.81	Age-related cognitive decline
R53.1	Weakness
R53.81	Other malaise
R53.83	Other fatigue
R54	Age-related physical debility
R62.7	Adult failure to thrive
R63.4	Abnormal weight loss
R63.6	Underweight
R64	Cachexia
W01.0XXA – W01.198S W06.XXXA – W10.9XXS W18.00XA – 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

Frailty ICD-10 Codes

ICD-10 Code	Definition
L89.000-004, L89.006, L89.009-014, L89.016, L89.019-024, L89.026, L89.029, L89.100-104, L89.106, L89.109-114, L89.116, L89.119-124, L89.126, L89.129-134, L89.136, L89.139-144, L89.146, L89.149-154, L89.156, L89.159, L89.200-204, L89.206, L89.209-214, L89.216, L89.219-224, L89.226, L89.229, L89.300-304, L89.306, L89.309-314, L89.316, L89.319-324, L89.326, L89.329, L89.40-46, L89.500-504, L89.506, L89.509-514, L89.516, L89.519-524, L89.526, L89.529, L89.600-4, L89.606, L89.609-614, L89.616, L89.619-624, L89.626, L89.629, L89.810-814, L89.816, L89.819, L89.890-894, L89.896, L89.899, L89.90-96	Pressure ulcer

Dementia Medications

Brand Name	Generic Product Name
Aricept, Aricept ODT	Donepezil
Razadyne, Reminyl, Razadyne ER	Galantamine
Exelon, Exelon Patch	Rivastigmine
Namenda, Namenda XR, Namenda Titration Pak	Memantine
Namzaric	Donepezil-memantine

Dementia Codes

Code	Definition
F01.50-.54, F01.A0, F01.11-A4, F01.B0, F01.B11-B4, F01.CO, F01.C11-C4, F02.80-84, F02.A0, F02.A11-A4, F02.BO, F02.B11-B4, F02.CO, F02.C11-C4, F03.90-94, F03.A0, F03.A11-A4, F03.B0, F03.CO, F03.C11-C4	New 2024 Codes for Dementia
F01.50, F01.51, F02.80, F02.81, F03.90, F03.91, F10.27	2023 Codes for Dementia

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ICD-10-CM is the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification.

