

# Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) Acute Exacerbation Episode Executive Summary

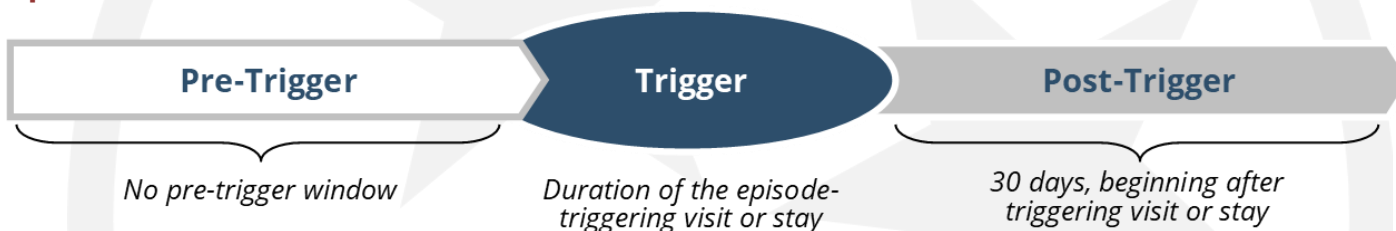
## Episode Design

- **Trigger:** CHF diagnosis
- **Quarterback type:** facility (CHF treatment site)
- **Care included:** all CHF-related care including imaging and testing, evaluation and management, and medications

## Sources of Value

- Effective use of imaging and testing (e.g., echocardiography when indicated)
- Reduce unnecessary admissions
- Appropriate site of care and length of observation/stay
- Appropriate post-acute care (e.g., use of SNFs, IRFs)
- Efficient use of follow-up testing
- Appropriate use of medications
- Reduce hospital reencounters (e.g., repeat exacerbation)
- Reduce complications

## Episode Duration



## Quality Metrics

### Tied to Gain-Sharing

- Follow-up care within the post-trigger window (higher rate is better)

### Informational Only

- Follow-up care within the first seven days of post-trigger window
- Emergency department visit within the post-trigger window
- Admission within the post-trigger window
- Mortality
- Utilization of functional status assessment

## Making Fair Comparisons

### Exclusions

- Business exclusions: inconsistent enrollment, third-party liability, dual eligibility, FQHC/RHC, no PAP ID, incomplete episodes, overlapping episodes
- Clinical exclusions: different care pathway (e.g., COVID-19, coma, cystic fibrosis, end stage renal disease, paralysis, active cancer management)
- Patient exclusions: age (greater than 64 years old), death, left against medical advice
- High-cost outlier: episodes with risk-adjusted spend greater than three standard deviations above the average risk-adjusted episode spend for valid episodes are excluded.

**Risk adjustment** is used to ensure appropriate comparisons between patients.

To learn more about the episode's design, please reference the Detailed Business Requirements (DBR) and Configuration File on our website at <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/health-care-innovation/episodes-of-care/searchable-episodes-table.html>.