



Advanced Illness and Frailty Exclusion Guide

What is Advanced Illness and Frailty Exclusion?

The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) now includes exclusions for advanced illness and frailty to enhance the accuracy of quality measurements. These exclusions adjust the eligible population for certain measures. Patients meeting the exclusion criteria are identified using specific codes from the NCQA Advanced Illness and Frailty Value Sets.

Exclusion Description

Patients with frailty or advanced illness are excluded from certain measures to ensure appropriateness for their health status. The following measures require such exclusions, with varying age ranges and requirements detailed below:

Exclusion Criteria	Applicable Measure
Patients aged 66 and older with both advanced illness and frailty	Breast Cancer Screening (BCS-E) Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E) Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients with Diabetes (GSD) Eye Exam for Patients with Diabetes (EED) Statin Therapy for Patients with Diabetes (SPD) Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC)
Patients aged 66-80 with both advanced illness and frailty	Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP) Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)
Patients aged 81 and older with frailty alone	Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP) Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED) Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture (OMW)

Medical Documentation

Starting in 2024, documentation for advanced illness and frailty can be submitted via supplemental data. Both inpatient and outpatient documentation are acceptable.

Advanced Illness Exclusion

Exclusion Criteria

Advanced Illness diagnosis codes must be billed on at least two different dates of service during the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year.



Dementia Medications

A dementia medication dispensed during the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year serves as an advanced illness identifier. Here is a list of acceptable medications:

Medication Type	Name
Cholinesterase inhibitors	Donepezil, Galantamine, Rivastigmine
Miscellaneous central nervous system agents	Memantine
Cholinesterase inhibitors	Donepezil, Galantamine, Rivastigmine

Common Examples of Advanced Illness

- Respiratory conditions: emphysema, pulmonary fibrosis, acute respiratory failure
- Renal conditions: CKD stage V, ESRD
- Heart-related issues: chronic or acute heart failure
- Neurological disorders: Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, ALS, Huntington’s Disease, MS
- Various malignancies: brain, pancreatic, leukemia, breast, lung, lymph node, and kidney cancers

Frailty Exclusion

Exclusion Criteria

Frailty codes must be billed in the measurement year and include two indications of frailty with different dates of service. Here is a list of the Frailty CPT codes:

Frailty CPT Code	Definition
99504	Home visit for mechanical ventilation care
99509	Home visit for assistance with activities of daily living and personal care

Common Examples of Frailty

- Use of Durable Medical Equipment (DME) such as canes, walkers, and hospital beds
- Home care services including skilled nursing, private duty nursing, personal care, and physician visits
- Conditions such as pressure ulcers and musculoskeletal issues (weakness, atrophy, cachexia, sarcopenia)
- Gait abnormalities such as paralysis, difficulty walking, or reduced mobility, history of falls or fall-risk

Disclaimer: This information is not intended to dictate or substitute your professional judgment in a particular patient.

References

- [Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Advanced Illness and Frailty \(AI/F\)](#)
- [Humana, Advanced Illness and Frailty Guide: Exclusions for HEDIS Measures](#)

For more info, visit our website

