

Total Joint Replacement Episode

Executive Summary

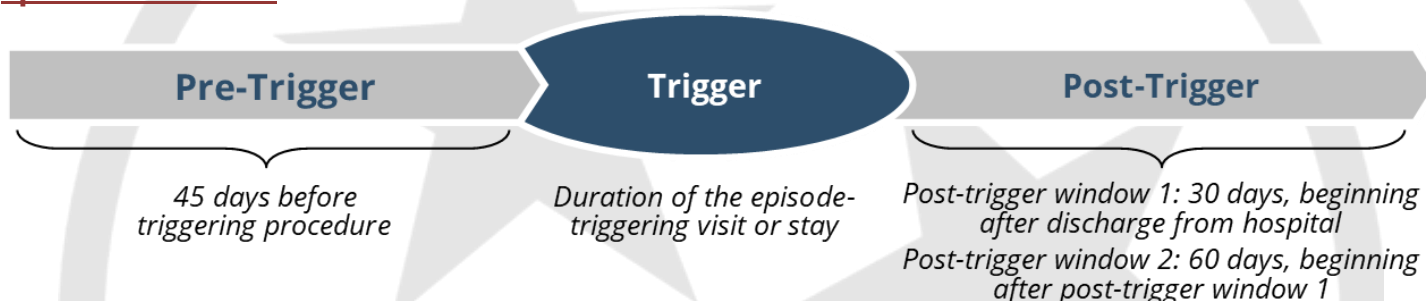
Episode Design

- **Trigger:** joint replacement procedure
- **Quarterback type:** professional (orthopedic surgeon who performs the procedure)
- **Care included:** all care related to the total joint replacement, including imaging and testing, surgical and medical procedures, physical therapy, and medications

Sources of Value

- Reduce unnecessary or duplicate imaging
- Use more cost-efficient facilities
- Reduce implant costs and optimize inpatient length of stay
- Ensure optimal recovery/rehab treatment
- Minimize readmissions and complications

Episode Duration



Quality Metrics

Tied to Gain-Sharing

- Admission within post-trigger window 1 (lower rate is better)

Informational Only

- Post-operative deep vein thrombosis (DVT)/pulmonary embolism (PE) within post-trigger window 1
- Post-operative wound infections
- Dislocations or fractures
- Average length of stay
- Difference in average morphine equivalent dose (MED) per day

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, bilateral procedures, blood clotting disorders such as hemophilia, end stage renal disease (ESRD), fractures & trauma, HIV, multiple sclerosis, pregnancy, active cancer management, DCS custody)
- 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>.