

INGENIX[®]

What are Procedure Episode Groups™

The information in this document is subject to change without notice.

This documentation contains proprietary information, which is protected by U.S. and international copyright. All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, without the express written permission of Ingenix, Inc. Copyright © 2009 Ingenix, Inc. U.S. and foreign patents pending.

Defining Procedure Episode Groups

Procedure Episode Groups (PEG™), provide a new unit of analysis to evaluate the unique focus of surgical specialists and other proceduralists. This new unit expands the breadth of the Symmetry™ suite of products to include the procedure as a focal point for complete cost information and sequence of care analysis.

There have been gaps in available tools in the health care marketplace when it comes to evaluating physician quality and creating value metrics around medical practices. Evaluating episodes of care and reviewing adherence to rules around evidence based medicine are important steps in understanding health care quality and efficiency, but there are large populations of physicians that are difficult to evaluate using only the tools previously available to the market.

Procedure Episode Groups evaluate information routinely collected on the claims submitted by physicians, hospitals and other providers for reimbursement to create cost and quality metrics around procedures, including work-up and conservative care, as well as post procedural care, and indicators of failed procedures. This creates a new unit of analysis that is used to evaluate surgeons and proceduralists, the first of its kind, and an important next step in the evolution of health care measurement tools.

By grouping this information into cohesive units of analysis, PEG builds upon transparent methodologies with the Symmetry suite of products providing clinical informaticists the building blocks to create an ever growing list of applications. Cost information is provided, and insight into quality metrics based both on sound clinical practices and statistical evidence are provided to include that diagnostic and pre-surgical work that occur prior to the procedure, work provided during the patient's procedural event, and physical therapy or other post procedural work, which may involve post operative infection or repeated procedures.

PEGs provide a reliable and consistent unit of analysis for measuring healthcare services provided to members with regards to procedure events. These units of analysis are used for many applications including:

- Provider efficiency measurement
- Sequence of care analysis / identifying quality adherence
- Employer reporting
- Fraud and abuse identification
- Research topics (ie, comparing success rates of artificial knees)

Symmetry's PEG provides a new and expanded insight into the health care industry. Building on more than a decade of experience, PEG provides the building blocks to build value based comparisons based on the procedure. By gathering relevant claims that describe the procedure's cost and sequence of care from work-up and conservative care through recovery and follow up care, Symmetry PEG reflects the complexity and costs of the procedure and its sequence of care.

This paper provides a brief overview of the product. If you would like a more detailed description, please read the white paper published on the Procedure Episode Groups. In addition, there are many other resources available through the PEG Transparency Program, including a tutorial section.