



# Symmetry Episode Treatment Groups (ETG)

Measure health care with meaningful episodes of care.

For any organization seeking transparency into the cost and quality of health care delivery, identifying clinical episodes of illness, and the services involved in their diagnosis, management and treatment, is a key business need. Episodes of care provide a valuable unit of analysis to measure the utilization of health care services directed toward specific clinical conditions.

Optum® Symmetry® Episode Treatment Groups® (ETG®) uses routinely collected claims or encounter data, including pharmaceutical prescriptions, provided during the course of an individual's treatment to capture relevant services. It then organizes the data into meaningful episodes of care. The result is the accurate identification of clinically homogenous, risk-adjusted units that describe complete episodes of care, providing the basis for valid comparisons.

As a market leader, ETG is licensed by more than 150 organizations in the United States, which collectively serve more than two-thirds of the insured population. When combined with other Symmetry products, ETG anchors a comprehensive analytic suite, able to address a wide array of business needs from a single data input file.

## Consistent metrics for analyzing treatment of medical conditions

ETG provides a consistent and reliable measurement tool for gauging the provision and financing of health care services. ETG can help health care organizations execute an array of initiatives by serving as:

- An analytical unit for measuring and comparing the utilization and financial performance of health care providers
- A clinically useful unit for measuring health care demand
- A basis for establishing disease management strategies, especially with the inclusion of pharmaceutical claims
- A basis for evaluating whether physicians are adhering to treatment guidelines and protocols



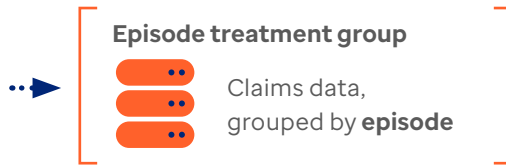
Between one-third and three-fourths of all commercial claims run through Optum Symmetry ETG at some point in their lifecycle.\*

\* Internal Optum analysis.

## How it works?

### Claims data

- Diagnosis codes
- Drug codes
- Procedure codes



Episodes are created by assigning all inpatient, outpatient and ancillary services to mutually exclusive and exhaustive categories, which are meaningful to care providers. At the member level, ETG recognizes comorbidities, complications and treatments that influence a member's clinical profile, enabling accurate case-mix adjustment. ETG covers the full breadth of health care services. Acute and chronic conditions as well as preventive services can be measured and compared.

## Key use cases



Valid measurement and comparison of providers based on cost of care



Improved understanding of disease-specific risk to support case management



Enhanced ability to track plan performance and trends around specific diseases and episodes

## Key benefits of ETG

- Rigorous clinical content, matching a member's diagnoses and procedures to appropriate episodes of care
- Inclusion of all relevant services into episodes of care, including ancillary, pharmacy, inpatient and outpatient, for a more comprehensive view
- Use of both diagnostic and procedural information to more precisely assign individual services to episodes
- Recognition of complications, comorbidities and treatment indicators that may influence an episode's cost and utilization
- Flexible treatment of chronic episodes of care, realizing the ongoing nature of these conditions
- Seamless integration with other Symmetry products for consistent analysis
- Transparency that allows you to access the clinical content behind ETG, supporting an understanding of grouped results



ETG can account for differences in member severity, including variations in patient age, complicating conditions, comorbidities and major surgeries.

**To learn more about how Symmetry ETG can help you measure health care with meaningful episodes of care visit [optum.com/symmetry](https://optum.com/symmetry).**



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