

**These questions were asked during the Episodes 101 webinar on 9/12/2019. Future updates and refinements of the Episode Program could change the information provided in the responses.**

1. **Q:** Can you explain under another type episode based on a provider report what is tied to payment and what is reporting only? Looking at skin and soft tissue injections and see cultures and antibiotics are tied to payment but which part of report is the "Reporting only"?

**A:** In the case of the Skin and Soft Tissue episode, the two metrics tied to payment are 1) the percent of bacterial cutlers where the episode also had incision and drainage and 2) the percentage of first line antibiotics within 7 days. The three informational metrics are 1) percent of a second antibiotic within days 16-30, 2) percent of ultrasounds and 3) percent of non-ultrasound imaging.

All episodes that are tied to payment have two sets of quality metrics. First are the set of quality metrics linked to payment, a PAP must pass the threshold for these quality metrics (and have average spend below the commendable threshold) in order to qualify for positive incentive. The other set of metrics are informational only and have no effect on incentives. These two groups of metrics are separated on the provider PDF reports by the headings 'Metrics linked to performance' and 'Metrics for information only'.

There is the same separation on the reports for episodes that are not tied to payment, but since the episode is not linked to payment the separation of the quality metrics doesn't have any effect. However, if/when the episode is tied to payment these would be the metric tied to payment.

The detailed business requirements also list which metrics are linked to payment, however the easiest way to see which metrics are tied to payment is to look at the threshold document that each episode tied to payment has, this document will also show the thresholds for passing each metric. Any metric not listed on the threshold document would be informational only. The detailed business requirement and threshold document are available on the Episodes website: <https://medicaid.ohio.gov/Provider/PaymentInnovation/Episodes>

2. **Q:** Do you have a high-level summary for each episode like the slide in the webinar with 6 elements?

**A:** There are high level summaries like this for the first two waves of episodes released. On the Episodes website any episode that has a 'definition' hyper link next to it has one of these summaries. The remaining episodes have a 'concept paper' which has all the same information but not in a condensed form. These documents are available on the Episodes website: <https://medicaid.ohio.gov/Provider/PaymentInnovation/Episodes>