# Pneumonia Episode Executive Summary

## **Episode Design**

- Trigger: pneumonia diagnosis
- Quarterback type: facility (pneumonia diagnosis site)
- Care included: all pneumonia-related care including imaging and testing, evaluation and management, and medications

#### **Sources of Value**

- Effective use of imaging and testing (e.g., blood and sputum tests only when necessary)
- Appropriate site of care and length of observation/stay (e.g., only admission when necessary)
- Appropriate and cost-effective selection of antibiotics, dosage, and length of treatment
- Efficient follow up services and care (e.g., chest X-ray only for high-risk patients)
- Vaccinate upon follow-up
- Reduction of complications (e.g., bacteremia)

### **Episode Duration**



#### **Quality Metrics**

#### **Tied to Gain-Sharing**

 Follow-up care within the post-trigger window (higher rate is better)

#### **Informational Only**

- Follow-up care within the first seven days of posttrigger window
- Emergency department visit within the post-trigger window
- Admission within the post-trigger window
- Follow-up visit versus emergency department visit
- Pseudomembranous colitis within the post-trigger window

## **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, coma, cystic fibrosis, end stage renal disease, multiple sclerosis, organ transplant, ventilator-assisted pneumonia, Parkinson's, respiratory failure, sickle cell disease, specific acute care such as for acute respiratory failure, active cancer management, DCS custody)
- Patient exclusions: age (less than 18 or 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 <a href="https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/health-care-innovation/episodes-of-care/searchable-episodes-table.html">https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/health-care-innovation/episodes-of-care/searchable-episodes-table.html</a>.