



# Job Aid: 27th Edition Summary of Changes

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## Introduction

The 27th edition is scheduled for release on February 24, 2023. In addition to the changes listed below, all clinical content has undergone a systematic evidence review by our editorial team. Based on this evidence review, new content has been added and many guidelines have undergone content revisions.

## User Resources

- For full details related to the 27th edition, refer to the Summary of Changes (SOC) accessible from the MCG search page or the table of contents of any content solution.
  - This document summarizes general content and format changes, such as changes to Goal Length of Stay and key product updates.
  - The SOC also lists new guidelines and content resources, deleted guideline resources, and guideline name changes.
- For detailed changes to individual guidelines, refer to the Detailed List of Changes (DLOC) accessible from the Table of Contents page for each content solution except Medicare Compliance and Patient Information.
- Comprehensive online training on MCG's 27th edition will be available March 10, 2023, within our learning management system. Please contact your account representative if you need assistance accessing this training resource.

## General Content Enhancements and Changes

**Number of Guidelines in the Content:** The Summary of Changes identifies the number of guidelines and resources in each content solution. This list demonstrates the wealth of MCG evidence-based guidelines that span the continuum of care and provides a comparison between the number of guidelines in the 26th edition and the newly released 27th edition.

**Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool:** The Care Management Tools section now includes a Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool (SDOH) (CMT-0020). The assessment tool is intended to guide clinicians in efforts to assist patients and their support systems to identify SDOH needs and resources.

**Gender Pronouns Updated:** When appropriate, gender pronouns have been updated across all 27th edition content. These updates improve inclusivity and align with the *AMA Manual of Style* (11<sup>th</sup> edition changes) which permits the use of "they" as a singular pronoun. MCG will continue to evaluate all content in this area to be as specific and inclusive as possible.

## Benchmarks and Data

**Benchmarks & Data:** MCG 27th edition benchmarking reflects data through December 31, 2021, for Commercial and Medicaid populations, and data through December 31, 2020, for the Medicare population. Starting with the 27th edition, the Potentially Ambulatory Procedures Analysis includes statistics on percent of procedures with 1-day inpatient stay. These are hospital encounters that are billed as inpatient stay with a 1-day length of stay.

## Inpatient & Surgical Care

COVID-19 Guidelines: New COVID-19 specific guidelines have been added. This new content applies to pulmonary and systemic illness caused by COVID-19. To clarify when the users would select the new COVID-19 guidelines vs. the existing Viral Illness, Acute guidelines, a Footnote and Annotation explain the intended scope of each applicable guideline.

Hospital-at-Home Guidelines (HaH): Viral Illness, Acute and COVID-19 HaH guidelines have been added. The HaH guidelines were developed to assist with the identification of patients requiring inpatient care who may be appropriate for care provided in the home setting.

## Multiple Condition Management

Changes made in Multiple Condition Management directly correlate to changes made in the Inpatient & Surgical Care guidelines.

## General Recovery Care

Gender-Affirming Surgery or Procedure Guideline: A new General Recovery Care guideline has been added that addresses gender-affirmation surgery. The guideline includes Clinical Indications addressing various procedures intended to reduce distress, increase quality of life, and optimize overall physical health, psychological well-being, and self-fulfillment in persons experiencing incongruence between their sex assigned at birth and their gender identity.

## Medicare Compliance

MCG regularly updates its Medicare Compliance (MCR) content throughout the year to reflect the policy statements written by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or Medicare Administrative Contractors. To view a list of the most recently published changes in the MCR content, refer to the Summary of Changes for Medicare Compliance page, which is accessible from the MCR Table of Contents. This page will be updated with each release and should serve as a reference listing of the changes published into MCR.

## Ambulatory Care

Procedures and Diagnostic Tests: The Procedure and Diagnostic Tests section has been expanded to include guidelines addressing procedures for painful conditions as well as quantitative electroencephalogram.

Specialty Medications: New guidelines have been added to the Specialty Medications section. This new content reflects the growth in specialty medications and gene therapy.

## Behavioral Health Care

LOCUS/CALOCUS-CASII Level of Care Information: The Clinical Indications of each level of care guideline (except Substance-Related Disorders) now includes the related LOCUS or CALOCUS-CASII level of care, the associated Composite Score and a Footnote that describes the appropriate use of the Composite Score. This enhancement more easily allows users to confirm alignment of the specific MCG guideline with external guidelines.

Recovery Facility Behavioral Health Guidelines: Guideline structure or format changes have been made to the eight Recovery Facility Behavioral Health Care guidelines. Within each guideline, the General Treatment Course, Extended Stay, and Patient Education content now displays under a new Evaluation and Treatment section heading.

## Recovery Facility Care

Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool: A link to the new Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool has been added within the guidelines' General Treatment Course and the Discharge Planning sections.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Guidance: To align with CMS, the Recovery Facility Clinical Assessment was removed. An indication and Footnote have been added to the General Treatment Course addressing initial comprehensive assessment guidance from CMS.

Extended Stay: To align with current literature, "Pain evaluation and management" content has been added to the Extended Stay section of appropriate guidelines.

Subacute/Skilled Nursing Facility Optimal Recovery Guidelines: Guideline structure or format changes have been made to the Subacute or Skilled Nursing Optimal Recovery Guidelines. Within each guideline, the General Treatment Course, Extended Stay, and Patient Education content now displays under a new Evaluation and Treatment section heading.

## Home Care

Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool: A link to the new Social Determinants of Health Screening Tool has been added to the guidelines' General Treatment Course and the Discharge Planning sections.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Guidance: To align with CMS, the Home Care Clinical Assessment was removed. An indication and Footnote have been added to the General Treatment Course addressing initial comprehensive assessment guidance from CMS.

Extended Visits: To align with current literature, "Pain evaluation and management" content has been added to the Extended Visits section of appropriate guidelines.

Private Duty Nursing (PDN) Acuity Tool: The PDN Acuity Tool, included in the Private Duty Nursing guideline, has been updated. For specific details on how this tool was developed, refer to the Footnote included in the PDN Acuity Tool Calculator, the Private Duty Nursing section of the Content Guide to Home Care, or the 27th edition Summary of Changes.

## Chronic Care

Social Determinants of Health: This content section has been expanded to provide additional care planning tools and assessments. New Food Insecurity and Housing Insecurity assessment guidelines are designed to assist clinicians as they develop plans for resource coordination. The Screening for Health-Related Social Needs assessment has been revised and is now titled Social Determinants of Health Screening Assessment.

## Transitions of Care

Social Determinants of Health: This content section has been expanded to provide additional care planning tools and assessments. New Food Insecurity and Housing Insecurity assessment guidelines are designed to assist clinicians as they develop plans for resource coordination. The Screening for Health-Related Social Needs assessment has been revised and is now titled Social Determinants of Health Screening Assessment.

## Patient Information

Handout Changes: There have been several additions, deletions, and handout name changes in the 27th edition of Patient Information. Refer to the Summary of Changes for specific details.

## Summary

- The care guidelines 27th edition will be released on February 24, 2023.
- Your organization will decide when the transition to MCG's 27th edition will occur.
- Refer to the online Summary of Changes to review detailed information regarding the content and functionality changes included in the 27th edition.

## 27th Edition Guidelines with Significant Content Changes

While all MCG content has undergone an annual review and many guidelines include content revisions, we have flagged the following guidelines as having significant content changes:

Guideline Title	Guideline Code	Summary of Change	
<b>Inpatient &amp; Surgical Care (ISC)</b>			
Angina	M-40 OC-003	Streamlined unstable angina indications and clarified invasive treatment criteria	
Ankle Arthroscopy	S-72	Re-ordered indications and removed significant functional impairment criteria	
Aortic and Carotid Artery Procedures	S-130 S-131 S-140 S-145	S-150 S-152 S-300 S-1330	Significantly expanded indications and increased details due to new American College of Cardiology guidelines
Arthroplasty, Hip and Knee	S-560 S-700	Revised Operative Status and Length of Stay Annotations, data now supports that more than half of patients are treated on an outpatient basis; clarifying Footnote added addressing inconsistencies in defining the ambulatory procedure time period	
Atrial Fibrillation	M-505	Replaced hemodynamic instability indication with more specific severe or persistent hypotension criteria	
Bowel Surgery: Colectomy with or w/o Ostomy by Laparoscopy	S-235	Changed scope of guideline to include partial or total colectomy by laparoscopy	
Cellulitis and Sepsis	M-70 P-112 OC-007	M-160 P-410 P-114	Included admission indications for failed outpatient/observation care and addressed the option of a non-inpatient setting for the administration of IV antibiotics
Chemotherapy	M-87 P-87	Added indications from the Medical Oncology GRG (MG-ONG), combined chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and targeted therapy criteria due to significant overlap in complications	
Chest Pain	OC-009	Revised discharge data and added Discharge Criteria Footnote with supporting evidence for discharge directly from the emergency department without observation care	
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	M-100	Removed indication related to severe underlying COPD, as worsening of symptoms, absent other indications, can initially be addressed in observation care	
Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)	S-390 S-392	Changed 2-vessel or proximate LAD disease indication and removed indications based on stress test results	
Dehydration and Gastroenteritis	OC-013 OC-019	Included indications and Footnotes related to acute kidney injury	
Electrophysiologic Study Implantable ICD Insertion	M-157	Added indications for symptomatic or high-risk ventricular arrhythmia	
Endovascular Intervention, Renal Artery or Vein	M-310	Expanded and revised indications	
Gastric Restrictive Procedures	S-512 S-513	S-515 S-516	Revised BMI threshold (was 40 now 35+) and added clarifying Footnotes
Heart Failure	M-190	Removed indication addressing first episode of symptomatic heart failure	

Hip Fracture, Open Repair	S-615		Added indications for partial fracture (stress fracture) of femoral neck
Hysterectomy and Pelvic Organ Prolapse	S-650 S-665	S-660 S-1020	Expanded cancer prevention indications and changed pelvic organ prolapse indications
Laryngectomy, Complete	S-780		Revised tumor indications
Liver Disease Complications	M-570 OC-058		Expanded definitions of acute liver failure in adult and child and clarified criteria for suspected vs. confirmed infected ascites
Liver Transplant and Lung Transplant	S-795 P-795	S-1300 P-1300	Expanded indications with new Footnotes
Neonatal Jaundice	P-265		Significantly changed indications based on release of new guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics; revised most thresholds with increased emphasis on flexibility
Nephrectomy	S-870 S-872		Reduced and simplified indications
Percutaneous Coronary Intervention	M-52		Changed left coronary artery stenosis indications
Rib Fracture	M-545		Removed some indications that should be managed with another guideline
Thoracotomy with Biopsy or Misc. Procedures by VATS	S-1082		Expanded indications
Tibial Osteotomy, Adult	S-1132		Changed or added indications to varus malalignment and tibial torsion criteria
<b>General Recovery Care (GRC)</b>			
Cardiovascular Surgery or Procedure	SG-CVS		Added indications for pulmonary artery endarterectomy, thoracoabdominal aneurysm, and pacemaker or defibrillator associated hardware procedures
Gastroenterology	MG-GAS		Added indications and clarifying Footnotes related to medical treatment of acute appendicitis
Hematology	MG-HEM		Expanded anticoagulation indications
Neonatology	PG-NEO		Significantly changed hyperbilirubinemia indications based on release of new guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics; revised most thresholds with increased emphasis on flexibility
Neurosurgery or Procedure	SG-NS		Expanded endovascular neurosurgery indications
<b>Ambulatory Care (AC)</b>			
Acupuncture	A-0329		Expanded authorization indications
Bone Growth Stimulators, Ultrasonic	A-0414		Changed “bone loss” to “fracture gap” and revised gap size to 10 mm or less (previously 15 mm or less)
Cardiac CT Scan	A-0020		Added authorization indications for acute chest pain
Cervical Cancer Procedures	A-0158	A-0281	Significantly revised authorization indications to incorporate the 2019 American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology Risk-based Management Consensus Guidelines
	A-0279	A-0282	
	A-0280	A-0284	
Cochlear Implant	A-0177		Simplified format and language, lowered threshold for bilateral sensorineural (SN) hearing loss and added asymmetric SN hearing loss
Colonoscopy	A-0129		Added and clarified authorization indications related to cancer and cholangitis
Continuous Glucose Monitoring	A-0126		Removed indication related to patient motivation and adherence
EGD, UGI Endoscopy	A-0203		Revised and clarified authorization indications and added criteria for eosinophilic esophagitis
Esophageal pH Monitoring	A-0715		Added wireless monitoring and multichannel intraluminal impedance monitoring (formerly INU); changed failure of GERD treatment to four weeks (previously six to eight weeks); added authorization indications for pediatric patients with suspected GERD

HLA Pharmacogenetics – HLA Testing	A-0649	Removed very specific ethnic categories that could have led to bias or inequity
Imaging	Multiple	Revised and clarified authorization indications for repeat imaging
Insulin Infusion Pump	A-0339	Revised and streamlined authorization indications
Mammography	A-0039	Clarified the use of risk models including addition of specific five-year risk based on the Gail model
Noninvasive Prenatal Testing (Cell-Free Fetal DNA) - Aneuploidy Testing	A-0724	Revised and streamlined authorization indications and added Footnote clarifying the purpose of this test is for screening rather than diagnosis of conditions
Polysomnography (PSG), Sleep Center	A-0145	Clarified use of guideline for full-night or split-night study
Septoplasty Turbinate Resection Rhinoplasty	A-0182 A-0183 A-0184	Removed non-evidence-based “appropriate medical treatment” indications
Specialty Medications: Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) Inhibitors	A-0993 A-0997 A-1003	Revised migraine medications to address first-line treatment for some patients and removed indications related to failure of other medication treatment
Specialty Medications: Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone (GnRH) Agonists	A-0304	Changed gender “dysphoria” to gender “incongruence”; for gender incongruence, mental health consultation is no longer needed; indications consistent with new GRG guideline Gender-Affirming Surgery or Procedure (GG-FMMF)
Specialty Medications: Second-line Osteoporosis Medications	A-0321 A-0644 A-0963	Changed indication structure to add clarity
Specialty Medications: Psoriatic Arthritis; Spondyloarthritis; Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (Systemic)	Multiple	Improved consistency between authorization indications
<b>Behavioral Health Care (BHC)</b>		
Applied Behavioral Analysis	B-806-T	Changed the term “moderately severe” to “moderate to severe” in the Clinical Indications
Buprenorphine-Naloxone	B-003-RX	Removed age restriction for buprenorphine-naloxone for opioid use disorder
Crisis Intervention Behavioral Health Level of Care	B-905-CI	Added new Recovery Milestone and Discharge Guideline criteria to focus on the need for ongoing follow-up care and monitoring for patients at high risk of suicide
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapy	B-818-T	Added reference details to the Inconclusive or Non-supportive Evidence section of the Evidence Summary related to inappropriate use of EMDR for major depressive disorder
Observation Behavioral Health Level of Care	B-906-OBS	Revised Footnotes to provide clarity around time needed for the observation level of care
Long-acting Opioids and Outpatient Opioid Maintenance Therapy	B-004-RX B-910-OPD	Added clarity to Footnotes regarding greater surveillance prior to transitioning from short to long term opioid treatment and added the exclusion of sickle cell disease
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation	B-801-T	Significantly changed Clinical Indications and added detailed Footnotes, in response to emerging research
Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation, Transcutaneous	B-820-T	Clinical Indications reflect Current Role Remains Uncertain