

## Guidance on using end of episode or discharge codes

In the context of Therapy Outcome Measures (Enderby and John, 2015; 2019), an episode of care is the period over which a service user receives therapy associated with one or more goals. The episode of care ends when the client has completed that focus of treatment. At this point they may be discharged, or they may have another episode of care with a different emphasis i.e. they have not been discharged.

When completing an 'end of episode' TOMs rating, it is advisable to record the reason for ending an episode of care in order to assist with analysing the data. The codes available on the ROOT are detailed below:

End of episode/discharge code	Definition	Episode of care completed?
Advice only (no intervention)	Individual assessed and advice was sufficient.	N/A
Declined treatment	Individual does not wish to receive therapy.	No
Did not attend	Episode of care terminated because the individual did not attend	No
Died	Individual died during the episode of care	Yes/no
Different intervention required	During the course of the episode of care, the goals of treatment were changed.	No
End of episode of care (to be reviewed)	The goals of treatment for the episode of care are complete. Further intervention required.	Yes
Intervening illness/medically unwell	Individual experiences an illness during the episode of care, which affects the goals of treatment	No
Moved out of area	Individual moved out of area before completing the episode of care	No

Recovered (therapy not required)	Individual has recovered since being referred/no longer needs treatment.	No
Therapy complete (discharged)	SLT is complete and there is no need for further SLT at this time	Yes
Therapy no longer appropriate	Clinical or personal circumstances determine that therapy is not appropriate at this time	No
Transferred to another service	Individual was transferred to another service before completing the episode of care	No
Unknown/other	The reason for the end of the episode of care is not specified or not known. (This is the default option)	Not known

If an episode of care was not required, and no advice given, it would not be necessary to record a TOMs on the ROOT. However, you may still wish to complete a TOMs for purposes other than outcome measurement, for example, in order to describe the caseload and type of referrals to the service.

## References

Enderby, P. and John, A. (2015) *Therapy outcome measures for rehabilitation professionals*, Third Edition, Guildford: J&R Press Ltd

Enderby, P. and John, A. (2019) *Therapy outcome measures user guide*, Croydon: J&R Press Ltd