
Operational Strategies for Converting to the New MDS 3.0

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Q: Where can I get a copy of the MDS 3.0 latest version 1.002?

A: You can download it (for free) from the CMS website at http://www.cms.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/30_NHQIMDS30TechnicalInformation.asp#TopOfPage or you can buy the color-coded document from the Med Pass Company.

Q: Where can I go to download an MDS 3.0 manual?

A: You can download the manual from the CMS website at http://www.cms.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/45_NHQIMDS30TrainingMaterials.asp#TopOfPage or order copies from TheComplianceStore.com.

Q: How will the ICD 9 codes and the UB coding effect acceptance in the federal database?

A: The ICD9 codes must be current on the MDS to be accepted for validation – the UB coding does not impact the validation process for the MDS 3.0 document.

Q: What was the form name? Is it MDS 3.0?

A: Yes – MDS 3.0 Version 1.00.2

Q: Will there be a difference between the Quarterly and Annual Assessment form?

A: There are a variety of assessment forms and data sets for specific use. They are all described in the manual and included in the manual download.

Q: Will the RAVEN system automatically be updated?

A: We do not have final information on MDS 3.0 implementation on RAVEN at this time.

Q: Do you have a website or schedule for upcoming educational trainings in 3.0 you have open this summer?

A: Yes, I will be doing two- and three-day trainings on MDS 3.0. You can contact my office at 330-821-7616 to inquire about the schedule.

Q: In section E of MDS 3.0 Behavior E0800 Rejection of care - should this also include refusals of Therapy evaluation and treatment?

A: The manual says to include refusals from a variety of departments.

Q: Can you repeat what the latest MDS 3.0 is out there? I currently have version 1.0.

A: At this time, the current Version is 1.00.2.

Q: Has anyone estimated the length of time it might take to complete a comprehensive assessment over all disciplines?

A: That has not been formally documented. This information should be available by the end of the summer.

Q: Is there a short form available or being developed for facilities that do short term SNF, such as a hospital-based skilled facility with a LOS of 8-10 days?

A: Yes, there is. It is described in chapter 2 and chapter 6 of the MDS 3.0 manual.

Q: How can I get a copy of this presentation?

A: You can download it from our website at http://www.mdiachieve.com/mds30/webcast/OperationalStrategies_MDS30_ADVANCE.pdf.

Q: Is there going to be a difference in the Medicare initial assessment and the 14 day, 30 day assessment or are they all going to be on the same form?

A: This will depend on the requirements from your state. Case mix states may have additional requirements.

Q: Are you saying the QI/QMs will change because of the data collected on the MDS 3.0 or that the actual categories of QI/QM will change?

A: Both will be changing.

Q: If a resident is discharged prior to the interview, is “NA” going to be the appropriate response?

A: Yes

Q: Did I understand correctly that beginning October 1st, all in-house residents, as they come due for assessments, will need to be the Full/Comprehensive form?

A: No. As the assessments come due, the appropriate assessment will be done in the 3.0 process.

Q: How will this process work with residents who are unable to respond to interview questions and there is no family or significant other to participate. Will we then rely on the records?

A: You will do the staff assessments for the various required sections and document the second part of the section under staff assessment.

Q: With the CAAs, can we still write a summary with the rationale for proceeding or not proceeding, or must we now site internet or other sources?

A: You need to use the Care Area Assessment Resources in Appendix C of the manual and the directions in Chapter 4 of the manual.

Q: Has CMS released the videos of Interview training skills?

A: Yes, they were released June 14th and are available on the CMS 3.0 website at http://www.cms.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/45_NHQIMDS30TrainingMaterials.asp#TopOfPage.

Q: How long is CMS going to allow for a transition time?

A: The MDS 2.0 will stop on September 30, 2010 and the 3.0 will begin transmission on October 1, 2010. There will be NO “transition” period where both will be accepted.

Q: Will the interviews be made of all new residents admitted on 10/1/10. Will we need to go back and interview our current residents?

A: You will interview each current resident as their next required MDS assessment comes due.

Q: How is group therapy affected in terms of reimbursement? Is one-on-one physical therapy the new rule?

A: Group therapy is defined in section O of the manual and can produce full minutes as long as the total group therapy minutes do not exceed 25% of the total minutes for that therapy discipline. See Chapter 3 of the manual – Section O, and Chapter 6 – Calculating Minutes of Therapy.

Q: Is there an electronic version of the MDS 3.0 Manual to assist in the training process?

A: CMS has the manual available online at http://www.cms.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/45_NHQIMDS30TrainingMaterials.asp#TopOfPage

Q: What would happen if a resident refused to be interviewed?

A: The manual gives specific instructions for that situation in each of the sections that contain the interviews – Section C, D, F and J.

Q: Is a “near fall” considered a fall?

A: That type of scenario is described in section J of the manual and CMS has indicated that more clarification in this area may be released later this summer in future manual updates.

Q: How will CMS transition the MDS 3.0 to a RUGS III payment, since RUGS IV is in 2011?

A: This will be clarified this summer. It is not set in policy at this time.