



October 2023 CMS Quarterly OASIS Q&As

Category 2

Question 1: Is a Transfer OASIS required for the following situation: A patient on home care services was admitted to the hospital to an inpatient bed. They remained there for greater than 24 hours for reasons other than diagnostic testing, however the stay was then changed to an observation stay. Should a Transfer OASIS be completed?

Answer 1: If, in your scenario, the patient was admitted to an inpatient facility bed, stayed for 24 hours or longer for reasons other than diagnostic testing and then was discharged from the inpatient status and admitted to an outpatient observation status, a Transfer OASIS would be required.

If the patient was admitted as an inpatient, but later the entire inpatient stay was reclassified as an outpatient observation stay and was billed utilizing one of the two G-codes for hospital outpatient department observation services, then a Transfer OASIS would **not** be required.

The hospital utilization department should be able to advise the agency of the type of bed and services the patient utilized.

Category 4b

GG0170R

Question 2: When assessing GG0170R - Wheel 50 feet with two turns, can the two turns be combined, or should they be completed at different times during the 50 feet?

Answer 2: The intent of GG0170R - Wheel 50 feet with two turns is to assess the patient's ability, once seated in wheelchair/scooter, to wheel at least 50 feet and make two turns.

The turns included in GG0170R are 90 degree turns. The turns may occur at any time during the 50-foot distance.

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M1033

Question 3: How are falls defined for M1033 - Risk of Hospitalization; response 1 - History of falls? For example, if a therapist is performing a therapeutic intervention that challenges a patient's balance and the patient loses their balance would that be considered a fall?

Answer 3: M1033 - Risk for Hospitalization, response 1 - History of falls considers any fall in the last 12 months, with or without an injury, whether witnessed or unwitnessed.

For the purpose of coding response 1, falls are defined as an unintentional change in position coming to rest on the ground, floor, or onto the next lower surface (e.g., onto a bed, chair, or bedside mat).

An intercepted fall is considered a fall. An intercepted fall occurs when the patient would have fallen if they had not caught themselves or had not been intercepted by another person.

Falls are not a result of an overwhelming external force (e.g., another person pushes the patient) or an anticipated loss of balance resulting from a supervised therapeutic intervention where the patient's balance is being intentionally challenged during balance training.

If in your scenario, the only fall that the patient experienced in the last 12 months was a result of a supervised therapeutic intervention where the patient's balance was being intentionally challenged during balance training, then that would not be captured as a fall for M1033, response 1.

Question 4: We are seeking clarification for M1033 - Risk for Hospitalization; response 3 - Multiple hospitalizations (2 or more) in the past 6 months. In the Response Specific Instructions, it states "Multiple hospitalizations (Response 3) defines hospitalization as the patient being admitted for 24 hours or longer to an inpatient acute bed for reasons other than diagnostic testing."

Does "inpatient acute bed" include inpatient facilities other than an acute care hospital? Specifically, would admission to any or all of the following facilities be considered an "inpatient acute bed" for M1033 response 3:

- **Free-standing Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital**
- **Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit within a hospital**
- **Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital**
- **Long-Term Care Hospital**

Answer 4: M1033 - Risk for Hospitalization; response 3 - Multiple hospitalizations (2 or more) in the past 6 months includes only acute care hospitalizations.

Admissions to an inpatient rehabilitation hospital or unit (meaning a freestanding rehab hospital or a rehabilitation bed in a rehabilitation distinct unit of a general acute care hospital), an inpatient psychiatric hospital and long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) are excluded from this response option.

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