



# G1d- Managing Medications Coding Guidance

The following instructions provide clarification of how to code question G1d – managing medications.

## 1. Setup help only:

This would be coded if someone is able to safely manage their medications on their own as they are cognitively and physically able but receives some assistance due to convenience. For example, the aide is there to complete other tasks and because it may take the participant a bit longer to get to their medications and water, the aide just does it for them. If the aide was not there, they would be able to safely manage on their own. In this scenario they would be coded as setup only for performance but their capacity would be independent as they are technically able to do it. Another example, if someone has the pharmacy do prepacked medication set up for convenience, however, they would be able to manage their medications without this service if needed.

## 2. Supervision:

This would be coded if an individual requires oversight or cuing. This might be someone with mild cognitive deficits or someone with a mental illness who can complete the tasks associated with medication management but may require some oversight or cuing to ensure they stay on their regimen. Ensuring medication management is key to the success of participants with mental illness remaining in their least restrictive environment. If more assistance is needed other than oversight and cuing, the individual should be scored accordingly.

## 3. Limited Assistance

This would be coded if an individual needs assistance on some occasions with the tasks associated with managing medications. These tasks may include but are not limited to: opening the planner, bottles, getting water, remembering to take medications, applying ointments, administering eye drops and Nebulizer medications, giving injections, taking correct dosage, calling the pharmacy/doctor, etc. Ex: Someone with rheumatoid arthritis may have flare ups in their hands that sometimes make it too difficult to manage their own medications, so on those days they need assistance getting the bottles open.

## 4. Extensive Assistance

Look at all the tasks associated with medication management listed above. This would be coded if someone requires consistent assistance on less than 50% of the subtasks for that individual's medication management process. An individual with authorized nurse visits for medication setup or a nurse visit for a routine injection should be coded as at least a 4. Depending on how many other subtasks are needed they may be coded higher.

## 5. Maximal Assistance

Again look at all the subtasks associated with medication management. This would be coded if someone requires consistent assistance on more than 50% of the subtasks for that individual's medication management process.

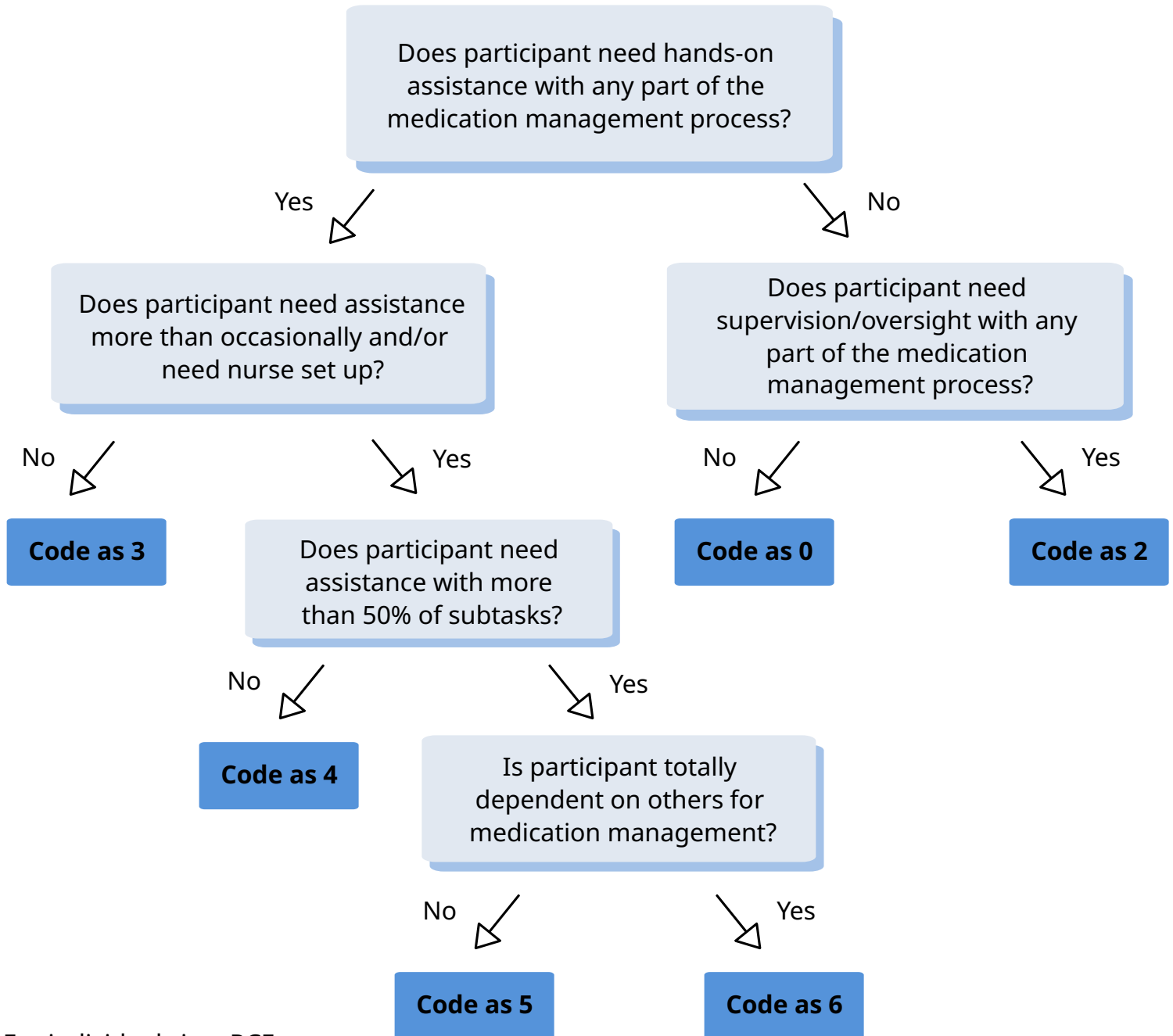
## 6. Total Dependence

Full performance of entire medication management process by others.



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## G1d Scoring Flowchart



For individuals in a RCF:

### Performance

This should be scored as either a 5 or 6 depending on if the individuals goes to the medication station on their own to receive their medications at the appropriate times. Because they are doing one step on their own this would be a 5 – max assistance. However, if they do not do this, they would be coded as a 6 – total dependence.

### Capacity

Determine the individual's ability if they did not have the support of the RCF. Code appropriately. Most individuals in an RCF are there because they require oversight and assistance with most day to day activities. It is likely the individual will be a 4 or above.



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## Relating Coding to Task Authorization

The chart below outlines possible authorization variations based on the coding of question G1d. Consideration should be taken to determine the participant's needs (PC vs APC and/or nurse set up) to determine final task authorization.

CODING OF G1d	PERSONAL CARE	ADVANCED PERSONAL CARE	NURSE SET UP
0, 1, or 2			
3	✓	✓	
4 or 5	✓	✓	✓
6		✓	✓

A coding of 0, 1, or 2 does not constitute the need for assistance with medication management, therefore medication related tasks would not be added to the care plan.

A coding of 3 indicates occasional need with assistance. This could be either PC or APC dependent upon what is needed.

A coding of 4 or 5 indicates assistance is needed on a consistent basis. This could be either PC or APC dependent upon what is needed. As stated above, nurse set up could also be authorized at this level if needed.

A coding of 6 indicates the individual needs assistance with all tasks related to their medication managements. This means they are needing someone to prompt them to take their medicine along with any other physical assistance that is needed. Due to the needed prompting, APC would need to authorize here. Nurse visits would also be likely in this scenario unless another informal or formal support is helping with this.