



Did You Know Incontinence Can Directly Affect Your OASIS Scores?

Shield HealthCare has your solution...

Why Should OASIS Scores Be Top-of-Mind?

The **Outcome and ASsessment Information Set (OASIS)** is the key factor in determining home health agency Medicare reimbursement and the improvement in the patient's condition under agency care. The OASIS includes questions that cover the process of care, which credits agencies for their evidence-based practices of care and gives a well-rounded picture of the overall quality of an agency.

OASIS data and scores are also used for:

- State surveys and federal audits
- Agency program development and quality initiatives
- Helping patients decide which agency to select as their home care provider

OASIS data is a major contributor to the agency quality measures - or scores - that are visible on the CMS Home Health Compare website: www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare. Home Health Compare shows the public how often each home health agency used best practices when caring for its patients, and whether patients improved in certain important areas of care.

**Your agency's positive outcomes can attract both new patients
and potential new employees.**

How Shield Can Help

Home Health Agency scores come directly from comparing the OASIS assessment on patient admission to the OASIS assessment on patient discharge. For this reason, it is important for clinicians to score patients as accurately as possible at the start of care, and to support their patients with case-specific health care products that improve patient outcomes.

Screening patients for incontinence is important in the home healthcare setting to prevent falls and incontinence associated dermatitis (IAD), in addition to improving each patient's quality of life. To learn more, ask your local Shield representative for a copy of *Living Well with Incontinence*.

**Turn over for details on how Shield HealthCare
can help improve your OASIS scores.**

OASIS-D Effective January 2019

Your Scoring and How Shield HealthCare Can Help

ELIMINATION STATUS

M1600-M1630 require accurate diagnosis of the patient's elimination status, including presence of UTIs, bladder and bowel incontinence frequency, and presence of urinary catheters and/or bowel ostomy.

- Shield HealthCare's incontinence and ostomy product specialists understand how important the right product, size and fit are to patient health. Consult our specialists for recommendations related to every unique size and complex medical need. Shield offers regular educational in-services that teach updated best practices in wound, ostomy and incontinence care.
- Shield HealthCare's online Incontinence Community provides articles on UTI prevention/care, perineal skin care and trouble-shooting guides for incontinence product use. To learn more, ask your local Shield representative for a copy of *Living Well with Incontinence*.

FALLS RISK ASSESSMENT

M1910 asks if the patient has had a multi-factor Falls Risk Assessment, contributing to the patient's M2401: Intervention Synopsis.

- The OASIS-D Guidance Manual indicates that each patient's assessment must include use of at least one standardized, scientifically-validated and effective tool. Ask your local Shield representative for a copy of our Home Fall Prevention Tips to help reduce your patient's risk of falls.
- Urinary frequency, nocturia, and rushing to the bathroom to avoid urge incontinent episodes increases your patient's risk of falling*. Shield HealthCare's patient-specific product recommendations and resources can help reduce your patient's subsequent risk of falls. To learn more, ask your local Shield representative for a copy of *Strategies for Aging Safely at Home*.

*Urinary Incontinence: Does it Increase Risk for Falls and Fractures? Journal of the American Geriatrics Society - Volume 48, Issue 7 - Copyright © 2000 American Geriatrics Society

Three Tips for Accurate Incontinence Assessment in OASIS

Q. How can I reduce unplanned hospitalizations with my patients?

A. Urinary Tract Infections (M1600) are one of the most common infections among older adults and can be difficult to diagnose, frequently causing unplanned emergency care. With proper cleansing techniques and early diagnosis, unplanned hospitalizations may be reduced. Visit Shield HealthCare's Incontinence Community for ways to reduce your patient's UTI risk.

Q. My patient is incontinent and catheterized. What is the best response for question M1610?

A. Response 2 is the appropriate answer because a catheter is required to drain the urine. However, if a catheter is capped off or is needed for antibiotic bladder irrigation, response 1 is most appropriate.

Q. How do I answer question M1610 if my patient has a ureterostomy?

A. If the patient wears a pouch for the urine diversion, response 0 is the most appropriate. Although, if catheterization is necessary to drain urine (even intermittently), response 2 is the appropriate answer.

*OASIS Item Guidance information provided by the OASIS-D Guidance Manual, © July 2018 by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

