



PDGM Executive Summary: OASIS

Under PDGM, OASIS accuracy, proper documentation and correct coding will directly impact episode payment.

Under this new reimbursement structure, appropriate case management will be paramount. Therapy and nursing will complement each other and should rely on one another to optimize patient outcomes. Care collaboration will be crucial under PDGM to coordinate care. OASIS Functional M scores, as well as Section GG should be primary focuses of collaboration between therapy and nursing.

The PDGM category for Functional Impairment Level is based on responses to eight OASIS items:

- M1800: Grooming
- M1810: Current ability to dress upper body safely
- M1820: Current ability to dress lower body safely
- M1830: Bathing
- M1840: Toilet Transferring
- M1850: Transferring
- M1860: Ambulation/Locomotion
- M1033: Risk for hospitalization

Under the PDGM model, 30-day periods are categorized into one of three functional impairment levels: low, medium and high.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) analyzed data from 2017 and 2018 to determine the higher resource use among the different responses to these Outcome and Assessment Information Set (OASIS) items. Each response was weighted with points related to that historical resource use. Some response options in these OASIS items yield no points to the Functional Impairment Score. Other responses carry a higher calculation of points.

Responses to these OASIS items determine functional-impairment groupings which means the collection of exact data is essential to correct payment. Competence in OASIS assessments is critical for gaining and sustaining accuracy.

Best practices and more information:

- Utilize an integrated team approach to promote OASIS assessment accuracy.
- Only one clinician should take responsibility for completing a comprehensive assessment. But since January 1, 2018, this clinician may elicit feedback from other agency staff acting within their scopes of practice to complete any or all OASIS items integrated within the Comprehensive Assessment.
- This integrated approach improves accuracy, creates reliable outcomes and enhances reimbursement for patient care.
- Direct observation is preferred when assessing physiologic or functional status.
- Clinicians need to combine observation, interview and collaboration with other agency staff and relevant strategies to complete any and all OASIS items, as needed.

Questions about this information? Contact AskAtHome@AegisTherapies.com or visit our Resource Center for more information at [AegisTherapies.com/Resources](https://www.AegisTherapies.com/Resources).