

Pressure Ulcer Prevention

PUP HUNTS MDS CODING

April 2009

Accurately coding the MDS is important. It affects you and the facility in many ways! (1 Most importantly, it helps you develop individualized care plans for residents. (2 The data feeds the QI/QM report, your best tool to see how your home is performing and to identify areas for improvement. (3 It drives your Medicare Part A reimbursement. (4 This data is reviewed by surveyors prior to coming onsite. (5 And finally, it feeds the nursing home compare web site and your 5 star rating both of which are available to the public and are used much more by families prior to nursing home selection.

*PUP
protects your
skin*



Let's take a closer look. A review of recent MDS data shows almost 2000 residents in Missouri with a pressure ulcer. Over 300 were low-risk—it should be unusual for them to develop a pressure ulcer! ***In all likelihood many of these 300 residents were high risk but just not coded properly.*** A review of these residents likely would find that they were malnourished and/or had poor transferring and bed mobility—all MDS indicators of high risk. What does that mean to you?

Because they were not correctly coded, (1 they were not identified as high risk which would have triggered care plans and interventions to prevent pressure ulcers, (2 your surveyors will be more closely scrutinizing your home, and (3 the public who views your 5 star rating will think your care is poor because people at low risk are getting pressure ulcers.

There are many resources to assist you with MDS coding. The state assigns one person to this, Joan Brundick, RAI coordinator. Contact her at 573-751-6308 or Joan.Brundick@dhss.mo.gov. You may also contact the QIPMO program: (573) 882-0241 or www.nursinghomehealth.org/. They also sponsor MDS support groups which meet regularly in various regions of the state.

Visit http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/20_NHQIMDS20.asp#TopOfPage for more MDS coding information. Pressure ulcer resources are available www.moaha.org; www.nhqualitycampaign.org, www.primaris.org/professionals/qi_nursing_home.asp, and www.mohealthcare.com.

Action Steps

1. Pull your QI/QM report TODAY and look at **all** your low-risk residents.
2. Review the MDS of each low-risk resident to be sure coding is correct. (Too many? Look at only those you are most concerned about.)
3. Immediately conduct standardized risk assessment on any low-risk resident incorrectly coded.
4. Implement a prevention plan.
5. Review the MDS Tip sheet for skin condition and the RAP for pressure ulcer.

MoLANE Planning Committee Members

Missouri Association of Homes for the Aging
Missouri Health Care Association
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Missouri Hospice and Palliative Care Association
Missouri League for Nursing
Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO)

Missouri Coalition Celebrating Care Continuum Change
Missouri Association of Nursing Home Administrators
Primaris, Missouri's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization
Missouri State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
National Association of Health Care Assistants