Quality Measure Tip Sheet: Falls With Major Injury—Long Stay

Quality Measure Overview

- This measure is a **look-back scans** measure. If the resident had one or more falls with a major injury on one or more of the look-back scan assessments, it will trigger the measure.
- Measure triggers if the event/condition occurred any time during a **one-year period**.
- Fall history is obtained with a look-back of **up to six months prior to admission**.

Exclusions:
- The occurrence of fall was not assessed.
- The assessment indicates that a fall occurred and that the number of falls with major injury was not assessed.

MDS Coding Requirements

In the Minimum Data Set (MDS):
- Include fall history on admission/entry or re-entry.
- Include number of falls since admission/entry, re-entry, or prior assessment (Omnibus Reconciliation Act [OBRA] or scheduled Medicare Prospective Payment System assessment)— whichever is more recent.
- Indicate major injuries for:
  - Bone fractures.
  - Joint dislocations.
  - Closed head injuries with altered consciousness.
  - Subdural hematoma.

Ask These Questions...

- Was the MDS coded as per the **Resident Assessment Instrument** requirements?
- Was a fall risk assessment completed on admission, quarterly, and with changes to identify appropriate risk?
- Was a process in place (based on fall score) to initiate preventive devices?
- Were preventive devices communicated to direct-care staff members?
- Are interventions monitored for placement and function?
- Are gait belts accessible for transfers?
- Do the nurses demonstrate competence for assessing fall risk?
- Are the direct-care staff members proficient in transfers and mobility functions?
- Are fall precautions taken if the resident is on anticoagulants, antidepressants, antiepileptics, antihypertensives, antiparkinson agents, benzodiazepines, diuretics, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents, psychotropics, vasodilators, laxatives, glycemic medications, tranquilizers, or hypnotics/sedatives?
- Are vision issues addressed?
- Is appropriate footwear used?
- Is the resident appropriately positioned?
- Are pain and comfort issues addressed?
- Are rest periods provided?
- Are activity programs individualized for the resident to meet his or her needs/preferences?
- Is continence managed?

For guidance on quality measures, reach out to Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG).

In Arizona, contact: aznursinghome@hsag.com
In California, contact: canursinghomes@hsag.com
In Florida, contact: FL-NNHQCC@hsag.com
In Ohio, contact: ohnursinghome@hsag.com

This material was prepared by Health Services Advisory Group, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Arizona, California, Florida, Ohio, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. Publication No. QN-11SOW-C.2-01122016-05