



Brian P. Kemp, Governor  
 Frank W. Berry, Commissioner

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MDS Coordinators

FROM: Lesley J. Lowman, RN  
*Lesley J. Lowman, RN*  
 RAI/MDS Coordinator, State of Georgia  
 Healthcare Facility Regulation Division-LTC Section

DATE: October 7, 2020

SUBJ: Update on Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM)

On May 18, 2020, CMS released Minimum Data Set (MDS) version 1.17.2, which will be effective October 1, 2020. This item set has an option for supporting the calculation of Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) payment codes on OBRA assessments when not combined with the 5-day SNF PPS assessment, specifically the OBRA comprehensive (NC) and OBRA quarterly (NQ) assessment item sets, which was not possible with item set version 1.17.1. This revised item set provides the State additional time to begin evaluation of a PDPM or a PDPM-like payment system for Medicaid. It also, at least temporarily, eliminates the need to utilize Optional State Assessments (OSAs) to collect RUG data elements.

Effective October 1, 2020, Georgia Medicaid will require the additional MDS items needed for the PDPM calculation on the OBRA assessments when not combined with a 5-day SNF PPS assessment. The following are the additional MDS items to be completed on the OBRA comprehensive and quarterly assessments for the PDPM calculation:

- Section GG – GG0130 Self Care (complete only column I)**  
 GG0130A1 GG0130B1 GG0130C1 GG0130E1 GG0130F1 GG0130G1  
 GG0130H1
- Section GG – GG0170 Mobility (complete only column I)**  
 GG0170A1 GG0170B1 GG0170C1 GG0170D1 GG0170E1 GG0170F1  
 GG0170G1 GG0170I1 GG0170J1 GG0170K1 GG0170L1 GG0170M1  
 GG0170N1 GG0170O1 GG0170P1 GG0170R1 GG0170S1

**Section I**

10020 - Indicate the resident's primary medical condition category

**Section J**

J2100 - Recent Surgery Requiring Active SNF Care

**J2100 = 1 (Check all that apply J2300 - J5000)**

**Section Z**

Z0100A - PDPM HIPS Code

- Please note that when the PDPM is calculated for a PPS assessment (when A0310B = 01 or 08), the expected HIPS code is a five-character code that includes the federal assessment indicator.
- If the PDPM is calculated for an OBRA NC or NQ with or without discharge, the expected HIPS code is a four-character code that excludes the federal assessment indicator.

The MDS Data Set effective October 1, 2020 will continue to support RUG calculations and therefore eliminates the need for utilizing Optional State Assessments to maintain RUG calculations. However, CMS has indicated that the support for the RUG system will be going away at some point in the future. By adding the additional PDPM data items the State will be positioned to begin evaluating options for transitioning the current RUG-based Medicaid payment system to a system that utilizes PDPM. It will also ensure that the most accurate Medicare equivalent rate calculations and acuity analysis can be completed. This is critical to supporting the annual Upper Payment Limit demonstration that CMS requires.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either by personal cell at 404-771-4699 or by email at [ljlwman@dch.ga.gov](mailto:ljlwman@dch.ga.gov).

Thanks to each of you for everything you do.

LJL