

Question of the Month

March 2026

K0100B, Holding Food in Mouth/Cheeks or Residual Food in Mouth After Meals.

Question: Should K0100B – holding food in mouth/cheeks or residual food in mouth after meals – be checked if a resident holds liquids in their mouth? The RAI 3.0 User’s Manual does not mention liquids in the definition for this question. Can you please clarify if liquids can be coded here?

Answer: Item K0100B is coded when the resident is holding food in their mouth/cheeks or there is residual food in their mouth after meals. If the resident is assessed as holding only liquids (and not solids) in their mouth, do not code this item.

N0415 High-Risk Drug Classes: Use and Indication.

Question: When a resident self-administers medication and it is not observed by staff, are we able to code that medication as received on the MDS?

Answer: In this scenario, if the resident is taking the medication in any of the pharmacological classifications, it would be coded on the MDS assessment in Section N.

Steps for assessment in Chapter 3 of the MDS 3.0 RAI User’s Manual, on page N-6, states: “Review the resident’s medical record for documentation that any of these medications were received by the resident and for the indication of their use during the 7-day look-back period (or since admission/entry or reentry if less than 7 days).” Additionally, under the Coding Instructions on this page for column 1, it states: “Check if the resident is taking any medications by pharmacological classification during the 7-day observation period (or since admission/entry or reentry if less than 7 days).”

M1200G, Application of Nonsurgical Dressings Other Than to Feet.

Question: Examples for M1200G – Application of non-surgical dressings (with or without topical medications) other than to feet – includes compression bandages. I was wondering if Tubigrip and Ace bandages would be included here?

Answer: Section M captures treatment categories related to skin injury or avoiding injury. Elasticated bandages such as Tubigrip and Ace wraps provide support for conditions like strains, sprains, swelling (edema), and soft tissue injuries. They are not compression dressings for purposes of coding in Section M of the MDS 3.0.

If you have a Question of the Month to submit, please email Cheryl.Moya@odh.ohio.gov and place Question of the Month in the subject line.