

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Know What Counts as Non-Pharmacological Pain Interventions for Coding Section J of the MDS 3.0

Can you include herbal pain remedies?

Answer: According to the RAI User's Manual, says **Sherri Robbins, BSN, RN**, the following applies: "Scheduled and implemented non-pharmacological interventions include, but are not limited to: biofeedback, application of heat/cold, massage, physical therapy, nerve block, stretching and strengthening exercises, chiropractic, electrical stimulation, radiotherapy, ultrasound and acupuncture. Herbal medications are not included in this category."

"You should also include the intervention as part of the care plan," adds Robbins, supervising consultant with BKD LLP in Springfield, Mo.