

MDS Alert

CODING QUIZZER: Can You Code This Type Of Suctioning At P1ai?

The wrong answer sets your facility up for medical review snafus.

A resident receives oral suctioning provided by the LPN during the MDS lookback for P1a. Can the facility count this as suctioning for extensive services by coding it at P1ai?

Answer: The RAI manual (page 3-183) provides a definition for suctioning for coding in section P1ai on the MDS.

Suctioning - Includes nasopharyngeal or tracheal aspiration **only**. Thus, you should not code oral suctioning at P1ai. Oral suctioning does not count toward extensive services. Reimbursement for oral suctioning is included in the daily per diem RUG rate.

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