

## MDS Alert

### Coding Quizzer: How Do You Code A Dying Resident's Discharge Potential?

The answer isn't as straightforward as you might think.

Mrs. D is a 67-year-old widow with end-stage metastatic cancer to the bone with pathological fractures. Currently her major problems are pain control and confusion secondary to narcotics. Mrs. D periodically calls out for someone to take her home to her own bed. Her daughter is unwilling and unable to manage her hospice care at home. Because of the fractures, Mrs. D is totally dependent in all ADLs except eating (she can hold a straw). Based on this information about Mrs. D, how would you code her discharge potential at Q1c - stay projected to be of a short duration - discharge projected within 90 days?

Coding options:

"0" for No

"1" for within 30 days

"2" for within 31-90 days

"3" for discharge status is uncertain.

Source:RAI user's manual

ANSWER:

C is coded no (0) because although Mrs. D is near death, the RAI manual instructs not to include expected discharge due to death when coding this item.