

## MDS Alert

### Reader Question: How to Document Diarrhea for Coding Section H

**Question:** What type of support documentation do we need to code diarrhea in Section H?

**Answer:** Diarrhea is a symptom that can be coded in H if there is documentation of frequent watery stools, advises **Marilyn Mines, RN, RAC-C, BC**. The RAI manual defines diarrhea for coding H2c as "Frequent elimination of watery stools from any etiology (e.g., diet, viral or bacterial infection)" during the 14-day lookback.