

OASIS Alert

Reader Question: EASE THE OASIS BURDEN ON NURSES AND PTs

Question: Our agency continues to collect OASIS data on all patients, but does not transmit the data on private pay, VA and Medicaid patients.

We have more time slots available from our occupational therapists than we do from our nurses and physical therapists. Can we have our OTs complete the assessments on the non-Medicare patients?

Answer: Occupational therapists are permitted to do all OASIS assessments except the Medicare start of care assessment, as long as the other payers don't require an RN, PT or speech therapist to complete the assessments - as Medicare does for the SOC, advises **Mary St. Pierre** with the **National Association for Home Care & Hospice**.