

Home Health Line Fact Sheet

Train clinicians on retooled OASIS transportation item

Make sure your clinicians understand the new transportation question included in the final OASIS-E2. The item, **A1255** (Transportation), and the response guidance differ from the item used in OASIS-E1, A1250 (Transportation). (See *related story*, p. 1.)

You can use this information from the OASIS-E2 Guidance Manual to help clinicians prepare for the new item.

A1255 (Transportation)

In the past 12 months, has lack of reliable transportation kept you from medical appointments, meetings work or from getting things needed for daily living?

0. Yes 1. No 7. Patient declines to respond 8. Patient unable to respond

Item Rationale

- Access to transportation for ongoing health care and medication access needs is essential to effective care management.
- Understanding patient transportation needs can help organizations assess barriers to care and facilitate connections with available community resources.
- Information regarding transportation barriers will help facilitate better care coordination and discharge planning.

Time Points Item Completed

- Start of Care • Resumption of Care

Response-Specific Instruction

- Ask the patient to select the response that most closely corresponds to the patient’s transportation status from the list in A1255.
- If the patient declines to respond, code “7 — Patient declines to respond,” and do not code based on other resources (proxy or medical records).
- If the patient is unable to respond, a proxy response may be used.
- Only use medical record documentation if the patient is unable to respond and no proxy provides a response for this item.

Examples

A patient is admitted with Multiple Sclerosis. They are confused and unable to understand when asked if they have had a lack of transportation that has kept them from medical appointments, meetings, work, or from getting things needed for daily living. No proxy with information about transportation is available, but their medical record indicates that in the past 12 months, their spouse used their car to transport the patient wherever they needed to go.

- **Coding:** A1255 (Transportation) would be coded as 1 — No.
- **Rationale:** Neither the patient nor their proxy was able to provide a response, but the medical record documentation provided the necessary information regarding transportation.

A patient indicates that in the last 12 months, they have not had reliable transportation, which has occasionally kept them from attending medical appointments.

- **Coding:** A1255 (Transportation) would be coded as 0 — Yes.
- **Rationale:** The patient reported they have not had access to reliable transportation in the last 12 months, which has kept them from medical appointments, meetings, work or from getting things needed for daily living.

Coding Instructions

- Code “0 — Yes” if the patient indicates that in the past 12 months, a lack of reliable transportation kept them from medical appointments, meetings, work or from getting things needed for daily living.
- Code “1 — No” if the patient indicates that in the past 12 months, a lack of reliable transportation has not kept them from medical appointments, meetings, work or from getting things needed for daily living.
- Code “7 — Patient declines to respond” if the patient declines to respond. When the patient declines to respond, do not code based on proxy or medical records.
- Code “8 — Patient unable to respond” if the patient is unable to respond and no other resources (proxy or medical records) provided the necessary information.
- Dash is a valid response for this item. A dash indicates “no information.” CMS expects dash use to be a rare occurrence.

Coding Tips

- If the patient is unable to respond and the response is determined via proxy or medical records, select the response that applies.
- When a patient responds in their preferred language with the use of an interpreter, this is considered a patient response. Do not code 8 - Patient unable to respond. Patients may respond to questions in English, or in their preferred language with the assistance of an interpreter.