

OASIS ITEM
<p>(M1890) Ability to Use Telephone: Current ability to answer the phone safely, including dialing numbers, and <u>effectively</u> using the telephone to communicate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 0 - Able to dial numbers and answer calls appropriately and as desired. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Able to use a specially adapted telephone (i.e., large numbers on the dial, teletype phone for the deaf) and call essential numbers. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Able to answer the telephone and carry on a normal conversation but has difficulty with placing calls. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Able to answer the telephone only some of the time or is able to carry on only a limited conversation. <input type="checkbox"/> 4 - <u>Unable</u> to answer the telephone at all but can listen if assisted with equipment. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 - Totally unable to use the telephone. <input type="checkbox"/> NA - Patient does not have a telephone.
ITEM INTENT
<p>Identifies the ability of the patient to answer the phone, dial number, and effectively use the telephone to communicate.</p> <p>The intent of the item is to identify the patient's ABILITY, not necessarily actual performance. "Willingness" and "compliance" are not the focus of these items. These items address the patient's ability to safely use the telephone, given the current physical and mental/emotional/cognitive status, activities permitted, and environment. The patient must be viewed from a holistic perspective in assessing ability to perform IADLs. Ability can be temporarily or permanently limited by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - physical impairments (e.g., limited range of motion, impaired balance) - emotional/cognitive/behavioral impairments (e.g., memory deficits, impaired judgment, fear) - sensory impairments, (e.g., impaired vision or hearing, pain) - environmental barriers (e.g., stairs, narrow doorways)
TIME POINTS ITEM(S) COMPLETED
<p>Start of care</p> <p>Resumption of care</p> <p>Discharge from agency - not to an inpatient facility</p>
RESPONSE—SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient's ability may change as the patient's condition improves or declines, as medical restrictions are imposed or lifted, or as the environment is modified. The clinician must consider what the patient is <i>able to do</i> on the day of the assessment. If ability varies over time, choose the response describing the patient's ability more than 50% of the time period under consideration. • The telephone use scale presents the most independent level first, then proceeds to the most dependent. Read each response carefully to determine which one best describes what the patient is able to do. • Ability to use telephone identifies the patient's ability to safely answer the phone, dial a number and effectively use the telephone to communicate. If a speech impaired patient can only communicate using a phone equipped with texting functionality, Response "1" able to use a specially adapted telephone would be selected.
DATA SOURCES / RESOURCES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation/demonstration is the preferred method • Patient/caregiver interview • Physical assessment • Environmental assessment