



Study Outline for the HCS-O (Home Care Clinical Specialist – OASIS) Certification Examination

This outline is designed to provide representative examples of the issues covered on the 2011 HCS-O certification examination. It is not inclusive of every issue addressed within the examination. It is recommended that you have an understanding of each of the items listed below prior to sitting for the HCS-O examination.

- OASIS-C and the Medicare Prospective Payment System (PPS)
 - OASIS as a Payment Tool
 - Three Dimensions of care that influence the HHRG
 - How correct responses to OASIS items affect patient outcomes
- OASIS Conventions and Definitions
 - General OASIS item conventions
 - Definitions found in OASIS-C Guidance
 - Day of Assessment
 - Complete care episode
 - Assistance
 - One Calendar Day
 - Minimal assistance
 - Bedfast
 - Active Treatment
- Diagnosis Coding Items
 - M1010 Inpatient Diagnosis
 - M1012 Inpatient Procedure
 - M1016 Diagnoses requiring medical regimen or treatment change
- Clinical Case-Mix Items
 - M0110 Episode timing
 - M2200 Therapy need
 - M1030 Therapies at home
 - M1200 Vision
 - M1242 Pain frequency
 - M1400 Dyspnea
 - M1620 Bowel incontinence
 - M1630 Bowel ostomy
 - M2030 Injectable medication
- Wound Case-Mix Items
 - M1308 Pressure ulcer numbers and stage
 - M1320 Pressure ulcer status
 - M1324 Stage of most problematic pressure ulcer
 - M1330 Stasis ulcer
 - M1332 Number of stasis ulcers
 - M1334 Stasis ulcer status
 - M1340 Surgical wound



- M1342 Surgical Wound status
- M1350 Skin lesion or an open wound

- **Functional Case-Mix Items**
 - M1810 Dressing upper body
 - M1820 Dressing lower body
 - M1830 Bathing
 - M1840 Toileting
 - M1850 Transferring
 - M1860 Ambulation

- **Other OASIS Items**
 - M1100 Living arrangements
 - M1210 - M1220 Hearing/Speaking
 - M1600 - M1615 Urinary
 - M1700 - M1720, M1740-M1745 Neuro/cognitive
 - M1900 Prior Functioning

- **Process Measures**
 - M0102 and M0104 Start of Care and Referral Date
 - M1040 – M1055 Immunization Status
 - M1240 Pain Assessment
 - M1300 Pressure Ulcer Assessment
 - M1500 – M1510 Heart Failure assessment and follow-up
 - M1730 Depression Screening
 - M1910 Fall risk assessment
 - M2000 – M2015
 - M2250 POC Synopsis and M2400 Intervention Synopsis



Practice Questions for the Homecare Clinical Specialist – OASIS (HCS-O) Certification Examination

These practice questions are provided to help you get acquainted with the types of questions that will be asked on the HCS-O certification examination. The rationale for each question/answer can be found in the OASIS-C guidance manual and/or CMS's Q&A updates that are released every quarter. These practice questions are valid as of 4/1/2011.

1. Which of the following are included in M2020 (mark all that apply)?
 - a. IM injections and Subcutaneous injections
 - b. Injections through a central line
 - c. Filling of an insulin pump
 - d. a and c
 - e. All of the above

2. In M1510 (heart failure follow up) in order to choose Response 1 - Patient's physician (or other PCP) contacted the same day, you must have had same day communication with the MD or primary care practitioner by telephone, fax, voicemail or any other means to convey the patient's status and the MD must respond to the agency communication with acknowledgement of receipt and/or further advice or instruction.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. The WOCN's OASIS-C wound guidance combines healing criteria for surgical wounds healing by primary and secondary intention.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. Mrs. Long has multiple medications which she takes in the morning, at noon, in the evening, and at bedtime. She manages her meds with the assistance of her daughter who fills her med box. Her medications include aspirin "625 mg. as needed for arthritis pain every 4 hours" which she admits to taking at least once every morning and at bedtime for arthritis pain. At the SOC assessment the nurse documents that the patient has multiple large areas (as large as 5 cms. x 5 cms. each) of ecchymoses on her arms and legs.

What is the most appropriate response to M2000 (Drug Regimen Review)? Does a complete drug regimen review indicate potential clinically significant medication issues, e.g., drug reactions, ineffective drug therapy, side effects, drug interactions, duplicate therapy, omissions, dosage errors, or noncompliance?

- a. 0 - Not assessed/reviewed [Go to M2010]
- b. 1 - No problems found during review [Go to M2010]



- c. 2 - Problems found during review
 - d. NA - Patient is not taking any medications [Go to M2040]
5. Your patient Mrs. Olsen has just been admitted to your agency for care for an exacerbation of COPD. The patient has co-morbid diagnoses of hemiplegia due to a stroke 2 years ago and dementia. She lives with her daughter who is also the patient's caregiver. Her daughter does not drive and states that she doesn't know how she will get her mother to the MD. She has arranged for Meals on Wheels to deliver to the home, has arranged for deliveries of new medications and refills from the pharmacy, and currently schedules all of her mother's medical appointments.

(M2100) Types and Sources of Assistance: Determine the level of caregiver ability and willingness to provide assistance for the following activities, if assistance is needed. (Check only one box in each row.)

How would you answer M2100(g) Advocacy or facilitation of patient's participation in appropriate medical care (includes transportation to or from appointments)?

- a. No assistance needed
 - b. Caregiver(s) currently provide assistance
 - c. Caregiver(s) need training /supportive services to provide assistance
 - d. Caregiver(s) not likely to provide assistance
 - e. Unclear if Caregiver(s) will provide assistance
 - f. Assistance needed but no Caregiver(s) available
6. Mrs. Black is admitted to your agency for aftercare following a hospital admission for pneumonia. She lives alone and uses a walker to ambulate. Mrs. Black tells the nurse that she takes all her baths at the sink in the bathroom. She states that she fell in the tub two years ago and has not taken a tub bath since. There is a separate shower in her bathroom with a grab bar and integrated shower seat but Mrs. Black says she has doesn't like showers. As part of the assessment, the nurse takes Mrs. Black to her bathroom and asks her to demonstrate a tub transfer. When approaching the tub, Mrs. Black becomes visibly anxious. However, using the grab bar, she is able to enter the shower and sit on the shower seat without assistance. She is able to demonstrate washing safely and does not exhibit the same emotional response as she did during the tub transfer.

Based on the scenario, what is the best response for **M1830: Bathing**: Current ability to wash entire body safely. **Excludes grooming (washing face, washing hands, and shampooing hair)?**

- a. 0 - Able to bathe self in shower or tub independently, including getting in and out of tub/shower.
- b. 1 - With the use of devices, is able to bathe self in shower or tub independently, including getting in and out of the tub/shower.



- c. 2 - Able to bathe in shower or tub with the intermittent assistance of another person:
 - (a) for intermittent supervision or encouragement or reminders, OR
 - (b) to get in and out of the shower or tub, OR
 - (c) for washing difficult to reach areas.
 - d. 3 - Able to participate in bathing self in shower or tub, but requires presence of another person throughout the bath for assistance or supervision.
 - e. 4 - Unable to use the shower or tub, but able to bathe self independently with or without the use of devices at the sink, in chair, or on commode.
 - f. 5 - Unable to use the shower or tub, but able to participate in bathing self in bed, at the sink, in bedside chair, or on commode, with the assistance or supervision of another person throughout the bath.
 - g. 6 - Unable to participate effectively in bathing and is bathed totally by another person
7. Your agency allows all qualified professionals to perform an OASIS assessment. Based on Mrs. T's schedule for the last week, who should complete the discharge OASIS?

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Week of 3/6 – 3/12	Adm. SOC (RN)	1 pm OT 9 am HHA	1 pm PTA	9 am RN 10 am - HHA	1 pm PTA 3 pm COTA 9 am HHA	NA	NA
Week of 3/13 – 3/19	9 am RN 1pm COTA 2 pm HHA		1 pm PTA 9 am HHA	RN (discharge) 10 am COTA	1 pm PTA 9 am HHA	NA	NA
Week of 3/20	1 pm PT 3 pm OT 9 am HHA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

- a. RN completes D/C OASIS based on visit to patient on Thursday 3/16 at 9 am.
 - b. PT completes D/C OASIS based on visit to patient on Monday 3/20 at 1 pm.
 - c. OT completes D/C OASIS based on visit to patient on Monday 3/20 at 3 pm.
 - d. No additional OASIS discharge data are required – an RN in the agency office may perform an administrative discharge based on assessments in record.
8. Mr. Wagnall is admitted following a hospital admission for pneumonia. He also has stage 3 chronic kidney disease associated with HTN. A vascular shunt was placed two months ago in anticipation of the patient's going on dialysis when his kidneys fail completely. There is a scar at the sight of the implant in his left forearm.

How will you answer M1340 – Does this patient have a surgical wound?

- a. 0 – No
- b. 1 – Yes
- c. 2 – Surgical wound known but not observable due to a non- removable dressing

End of Practice Questions



Answers to HCS-O Practice Questions

1. a
2. a
3. a
4. c
5. c
6. b
7. c
8. b