

MDS M1 and M2 Consistency Checks

(06/04/2008)

CMS has received questions regarding the correlation between items M1 and M2 of the MDS. Below is an explanation of the consistency checks completed by the State Server for these two fields:

M1 (any type of ulcer) can be coded even if M2a (pressure ulcer) and M2b (stasis ulcer) are not coded. The MDS Data Specifications take this into account. If M2a or M2b are coded then M1 must be coded. But if M2a and M2b are not coded, then M1 can be coded or not.

Here are the consistency checks for these items:

1. M1a (number stage 1 ulcers) must be greater than zero if M2a=1 (stage 1) or M2b=1 (stage 1).
2. M1b (number stage 2 ulcers) must be greater than zero if M2a=2 (stage 2) or M2b=2 (stage 2).
3. M1c (number stage 3 ulcers) must be greater than zero if M2a=3 (stage 3) or M2b=3 (stage 3).
4. M1d (number stage 4 ulcers) must be greater than zero if M2a=4 (stage 4) or M2b=4 (stage 4).
5. M2a must be zero if M1a through M1d are all equal to zero.
6. M2b must be zero if M1a through M1b are all equal to zero.
7. If a person had a stage 2 arterial ulcer and nothing else, then it would be appropriate (and allowed) to have the following pattern of responses:

M1a=0	M1b=1
M1c=0	M1d=0
M2a=0	M2b=0

**The MDS Version 1.30 Data Specifications are available at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MDS20SWSpecs/03_DataSpecificationsVersion1.asp