

C0700: Short-term Memory OK

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Enter Code

Seems or appears to recall after 5 minutes

- 0. Memory OK
- 1. Memory problem

Item Rationale

Health-related Quality of Life

- To assess the mental state of residents who cannot be interviewed, an intact 5-minute recall (“short-term memory OK”) indicates greater likelihood of normal cognition.
- An observed “memory problem” should be taken into consideration in Planning for Care.

C0700: Short-term Memory OK (cont.)

Planning for Care

- Identified memory problems typically indicate the need for:
 - Assessment and treatment of an underlying related medical problem (particularly if this is a new observation) or adverse medication effect, or
 - possible evaluation for other problems with thinking
 - additional nursing support
 - at times frequent prompting during daily activities
 - additional support during recreational activities.

Steps for Assessment

- Determine the resident's short-term memory status by asking them:
 - to describe an event 5 minutes after it occurred if you can validate the resident's response, or
 - to follow through on a direction given 5 minutes earlier.
- Observe how often the resident has to be re-oriented to an activity or instructions.
- Staff members also should observe the resident's cognitive function in varied daily activities.
- Observations should be made by staff across all shifts and departments and others with close contact with the resident.
- Ask direct care staff across all shifts and family or significant others about the resident's short-term memory status.
- Review the medical record for clues to the resident's short-term memory during the look-back period.

Coding Instructions

Based on all information collected regarding the resident's short-term memory during the 7-day look-back period, identify and code according to the most representative level of function.

- Code 0, memory OK:** if the resident recalled information after 5 minutes.
- Code 1, memory problem:** if the most representative level of function shows the absence of recall after 5 minutes.

Coding Tips

- If the test cannot be conducted (resident will not cooperate, is non-responsive, etc.) and staff members were unable to make a determination based on observing the resident, use the standard "no information" code (a dash, "-") to indicate that the information is not available because it could not be assessed.

C0700: Short-term Memory OK (cont.)

Example

1. A resident has just returned from the activities room where they and other residents were playing bingo. You ask them if they enjoyed themselves playing bingo, but they return a blank stare. When you ask them if they were just playing bingo, they say, "no." **Code 1, memory problem.**

Coding: C0700, would be **coded 1, memory problem.**

Rationale: The resident could not recall an event that took place within the past 5 minutes.