

More Information about OASIS Web-Based Training (WBT) Internet site

CMS expects that such the OASIS WBT Internet site will allow independent access for individual clinicians and others to understand the OASIS items and the most effective assessment that will lead to greater accuracy and consistency in selecting responses. We hope that the positive clinician behavior demonstrated in the videos will motivate clinicians to learn how to effectively perform a comprehensive assessment without fatigue to the patient or the clinician.

Each lesson presents information with interactive learning activities including scenarios, a Test Your Knowledge quiz, and Self-Check, all of which provide learner feedback. The lessons are enhanced with narration, text of the narration, video clips, and photos. There is approximately 60 minutes of full-color video clips that show various patient/clinician scenes. CMS again partnered with the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) to provide specific pictures of the various stages and types of wounds because wound care is a common condition encountered in the home care environment. This WBT will feature an e-mail box to get any clinical or technical questions answered by the official CMS OASIS Team.

This Internet site offers many benefits to the home health agency. This site could be useful for orienting clinicians new to home care, as a resource to clarify a specific OASIS item for more seasoned clinicians, it facilitates competency testing, and develops staff who are effective and efficient in conducting assessments. For individual clinicians this is a site that offers opportunities to expand assessment approaches and strategies in self-study continuing education, free of charge; while it presents essential content to increase accuracy and provides clinical decision-making skill through principle-based presentation. The site offers additional resources for your investigation, and is accessible from any modern computer with Internet access at home or work. We hope this site will promote peer interaction regarding the patient situations, while facilitating group communication about clinical skills, care, and assessment and intervention strategies.

The site meets Section 508 guidelines for the Rehabilitation Act of 1998 ensuring that the site is easily accessible to people with disabilities. Since the website is in the public domain, we intend to permit free use of this site and information to the home health industry including home health agencies, clinicians, and others who may freely link to this site; however, this information may not be copyrighted.

It is essential that CMS support accurate and complete patient assessment and data entry to lay an accurate foundation for the multiple purposes using OASIS data. It is used for:

- Outcome-based Quality Improvement/Monitoring Reports (OBQI/M) to guide the OBQI program to improve care within the home health agency,
- Home Health Prospective Payment System and Payment Integrity systems uses OASIS data to create the HHRG and HIPPS code for payment,
- State Agency Survey and Certification Process uses OBQI/OBQM reports to focus the survey process,

- Home Health Quality Improvement (HHQI) uses certain quality measures published in Home Health Compare.

Technical concerns

Because this WBT features Cutting Edge Technology with audio coming from Internet narration, slides, and video clips, this WBT does have technical requirements for the computer to effectively see and view the components. The minimum and recommended requirements are described in this table.

Technical Requirements Table	Minimum Requirements	Recommended Requirements
<i>Hardware</i>	Pentium II or better/Macintosh G3 or better	Pentium III
<i>Configuration</i>	233 Mhz, processor speed: with windows-compatible sound card/or built-in Macintosh sound	500 Mhz CPU (Faster is better!);
<i>Operating System</i>	Windows 95 or later or MAC OS8	Windows 95 or later or MAC OS8
<i>Memory</i>	32 MB of RAM	64 MB of RAM or better
<i>Display Setting:</i>	Resolution set to at least 640x480 at 16-bit color	24-bit color
Browser	MS Internet Explorer browser Version 4.0 and Netscape Browser Version 4.0	MS Internet Explorer browser Version 4.0 and Netscape Browser Version 4.0
Internet Connection & Speed	Connection by dial-up modem of 28.8 modems	56K dial-up modem or faster. Must have internet service provider (ISP)
<i>Computer Monitor</i>	14" or larger color	14" or larger color
<i>AV Software</i>	Windows Media Player 6.4 or later (free downloads for PC and Mac) Macromedia Flash Player, Version 6.0 recommended (free downloads for PC and Mac);	Windows Media Player 6.4 or later (free downloads for PC and Mac) Macromedia Flash Player, Version 6.0 recommended (free downloads for PC and Mac);
<i>Hardware Accessories</i>	External or built-in speakers. CD-ROM 10x speed drive or better.	External or built-in speakers. CD-ROM 10x speed drive or better.

CMS hopes to increase the accuracy and consistency in coding OASIS items by providing a cutting-edge, interactive tool to each Medicare-certified HHA. We expect

that the agencies will use this to improve services not only to Medicare home health beneficiaries but all patients the agency serves.