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| **[Link to Mnemonics and Questions](https://secure.wvmi.org/QUESTIONS/Specifications/Mnemonics%20and%20Questions/fy2025q3/MnemonicQuestions2025q3.xlsx)** | | | | | | |
| 1 | vhabps  vhabpd | Enter the patient’s most recent blood pressure documented in the VHA medical record within the past year.  (Exclude BP taken in ED, Ambulatory Surgery, Urgent Care visit, or during an inpatient admission) | | \_\_ \_\_ \_\_  /\_\_ \_\_ \_\_  **Abstractor can enter zzz/zzz if no blood pressure was taken at any applicable VHA outpatient encounter within the past year**  If vhabp z-filled, auto-fill bp1dt as 99/99/9999, and go to encarcor   |  | | --- | | Warning if vhabps <= 80 or > = 250  Warning if vhabpd < = 44 or > = 135  Hard edit: vhabps and vhabpd must be > 0  Hard edit: vhabps must be > than vhabpd | | **Acceptable for BP measurement:**  **1) BP taken by ancillary personnel. The individual taking the BP does not have to be one of the designated clinicians.**  **2) BP measurement report documented in the VHA medical record (scanned report) from an outside provider or professional entities (e.g., Health Departments).**  **3) BP measurement obtained from outside provider or professional entity documented in a clinic note by a licensed member of the healthcare team with the date the BP was measured.**  **4) BP recorded by HBPC.**  **5) Telehealth BP: A BP reading documented in a clinical video telehealth (CVT) or telephone visit note or in the vital signs package.**  **NOTE: Telehealth BP is not the same as Care Coordination (CC/H) electronic capture of BP. BP captured by CC/H will be entered in a subsequent question.**  **6) Self-reported** **BP readings by the patient/caregiver that are documented in the medical record.**  **7) BP readings taken on a day of low intensity or preventive procedures are acceptable to use. Low intensity/preventive procedures include but are not limited to vaccinations, allergy injections, lidocaine injections, eye exams with dilating agents, wart or mole removal.**  **8)** **A documented “average BP” (e.g., “average BP: 139/70”) is eligible for use**  If there are multiple BPs recorded for a single date at acceptable VHA outpatient encounters, use the lowest systolic and lowest diastolic BP on that date as the representative BP. The systolic and diastolic results do not need to be from the same reading. For example, patient was seen in primary care clinic and cardiology clinic on 12/22/20XX. Two BP measurements were noted - 148/82 and 138/92. Enter 138/82 as the lowest BP recorded for that date.  **Cont’d next page** | |
|  |  | |  |  | | **BP cont’d**  **EXCLUDE the following BP readings:**   * Blood pressure taken in the Emergency Department, Ambulatory Surgery, Urgent Care visit, or during an inpatient admission. An Urgent Care clinic is not to be confused with a walk-in, non-urgent clinic (same day care clinic available at some facilities). If the blood pressure taken in the ED or at an Urgent Care clinic is the patient’s only BP taken within the past year, enter zzz/zzz. * When excluding BP readings, the intent is to identify diagnostic or therapeutic procedures that require a medication regimen, a change in diet or a change in medication. * BPs taken during an outpatient visit which was for the **sole** purpose of having a diagnostic test or surgical procedure performed (e.g., sigmoidoscopy, stress test). * BPs obtained the same day as a major diagnostic or surgical procedure (e.g., administration of IV contrast for a radiology procedure; cardiac catheterization; endoscopy). * BPs obtained the same day as a therapeutic procedure (examples include but are not limited to dialysis, chemotherapy). * BP ranges and thresholds do not meet criteria   **If blood pressure was not taken at an accepted VHA encounter or documented in the VHA medical record within the past year, enter default zzz/zzz.**  **Oracle Health Suggested Data sources**: Ambulatory View/Vital Signs (adjust timeframe and confirm acceptable source in Documentation/Progress note |
| 2 | bp1dt | | Enter the date this blood pressure was measured. | mm/dd/yyyy  Will be auto-filled as 99/99/9999 if vhabp  z-filled   |  | | --- | | < = 1 year prior or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | | Enter the exact date. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable.  If VHABPS and VHABPD were z-filled, the date will auto-fill as 99/99/9999. The abstractor cannot enter the 99/99/9999 default date if valid BP numbers were entered in VHABPS and VHABPD. |
| 3 | encarcor | | Is there documentation the patient was enrolled in Care Coordination (CC/H)?  1. Yes  2. No | 1,2  If 1, go to ccbps  If 2, auto-fill ccbps as zzz/zzz, ccbpdt as 99/99/9999, and go to asesadl as applicable | | **Care Coordination (CC/H) electronic capture of BP**: Patient measures his BP and the readings are electronically transmitted to Care Coordination. This BP reading **cannot** be changed by the patient and does not involve patient interpretation.  The BP readings are entered into the legal medical record by Care Coordination and are acceptable if they are clearly identified in the progress note as Care Coordination/Home Telehealth and electronically captured. |
| 4 | ccbps  ccbpd | | Enter the most recent blood pressure documented in the record by Care Coordination (CC/H). | \_\_ \_\_ \_\_  /\_\_ \_\_ \_\_  **Abstractor can enter zzz/zzz**  **If valid, go to ccbpdt**  **If z-filled, auto-fill ccbpdt as 99/99/9999 and go to** asesadl **as applicable**  Will be auto-filled as zzz/zzz if encarcor = 2   |  | | --- | | Warning if ccbps <= 80 or > = 250  Warning if ccbpd < = 44 or > = 135  Hard edit: ccbps and ccbpd must be > 0  Hard edit: ccbps must be > than ccbpd | | | **Care Coordination (CC/H) electronic capture of BP:** patient measures his BP and the readings are electronically transmitted to Care Coordination. This BP reading cannot be changed by the patient and does not involve patient interpretation.  The BP readings are entered into the legal medical record by Care Coordination and are acceptable if they are clearly identified in the progress note as Care Coordination/Home Telehealth and electronically captured.  If BP was not recorded by Care Coordination within the past year, enter default zzz/zzz.  **Unacceptable:**  BP taken by patient or caregiver at home and result phoned to VHA provider.  **Oracle Health Suggested Data Sources**: Ambulatory View/Vital Signs (adjust timeframe and confirm acceptable source in Documentation/Progress note; CC/H vital signs should be marked |
| 5 | ccbpdt | | Enter the date this blood pressure was measured. | mm/dd/yyyy  Will be auto-filled as 99/99/9999 if encarcor or ccbps is z-filled   |  | | --- | | < = 1 year prior or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | | Enter the exact date. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable. |
| **If patient age 75 or >, go to asesadl; else go out of Module** | | | | | | |
|  |  | | **Frail Elderly** |  | |  |

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| 6 | asesadl | Within the past 12 months, was an assessment of the patient’s activities of daily living (ADLs) performed using a standardized and published tool?  1. Yes  2. No | 1,2  If 2, auto-fill adldt as 99/99/9999, and go to asesiadl | **Activities of daily living (ADL) include bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring, continence, and feeding.**  **Two standardized and published tools are the Katz Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living; Vulnerable Elders Survey Tool (VES):**   * Katz Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living assesses the patient’s independence or dependence in six areas: bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring, continence, and feeding.   The total points range from 0 (patient very dependent) to 6 (patient independent).   * The VES is a 13 item, simple, function-based questionnaire that considers four factors: age, self-rated health, limitations in physical function and functional disability. The total score ranges from 0-10; the likelihood of future functional decline or death increases linearly as the score increases. A score of 3 or higher is often used to identify individuals as vulnerable to functional decline, but providers can elect to use higher scores if they want to narrow selection and identify persons at even greater risk.   **Some examples of other standardized and published ADL tools include:**   * Activity Measure for Post-Acute Care (AM-PAC) or 6 Clicks are multidimensional measures to assess functional outcomes of patients in post-acute care settings. * Banner Mobility Assessment Tool (BMAT) is a tool designed for nurses to assess patient mobility at the bedside. * Functional Status Questionnaire has five sections of questions pertaining to physical function in ADLs, psychological function, role function, social function, and variety of performance measures. * Functional Status Screen is a two question screen. The first question asks if the patient has difficulty shopping for groceries and/or managing medications; second question asks if the patient has difficulty bathing on their own or walking across a room alone. John Hopkins Highest Level of Mobility (JHLM) is a performance measure of the patient's highest level of mobility achieved.   **Cont’d next page**  **ADL tools cont’d**   * Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS), or Physical Function 5 (PF5), is a system of highly reliable, precise measures of patient–reported health status for physical, mental, and social well–being. * Performance-Oriented Mobility Assessment (POMA) was developed as a multidimensional balance assessment to predict the risk of falling in older adults.   Other tools are acceptable but must be standardized and published.  If another standardized and published tool is used, the tool must be named, and the questions and scoring must be in accordance with the authentic screening tool.  In order to answer “1,” the documentation must clearly indicate that ADLs were assessed using a standardized and published tool and the results must be documented. |
| 7 | adldt | Enter the date of the most recent assessment of ADLs using a standardized and published tool. | mm/dd/yyyy  Will be auto-filled as 99/99/9999 if  asesadl = 2   |  | | --- | | < = 12 months prior to or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | Exact date should be available in the record. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable. |
| 8 | asesiadl | Within the past 12 months, was an assessment of the patient’s instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) performed using a standardized and published tool?  1. Yes  2. No | 1,2  If 2, auto-fill iadldt as 99/99/9999 and go to askfalls | **Instrumental activities of daily living includes ability to use telephone, shopping, food preparation, housekeeping, laundry, mode of transportation, responsibility for own medications, and ability to handle finances.**  **Two examples of IADL standardized and published tools** are **Instrumental Activities of Daily Living Scale (IADL) M.P. Lawton and E.M. Brody and Vulnerable Elders Survey Tool (VES):**   * Lawton Instrumental Activities of Daily Living Scale assesses eight domains of independent living skills: ability to use telephone, shopping, food preparation, housekeeping, laundry, mode of transportation, responsibility for own medications, and ability to handle finances. A summary score ranges from 0 (low function, dependent) to 8 (high function, independent). * The VES is a 13 item, simple, function-based questionnaire that considers four factors: age, self-rated health, limitations in physical function and functional disability. The total score ranges from 0-10; the likelihood of future functional decline or death increases linearly as the score increases. A score of 3 or higher is often used to identify individuals as vulnerable to functional decline, but providers can elect to use higher scores if they want to narrow selection and identify persons at even greater risk.   **Some examples of other standardized and published IADL tools include:**   * Activity Measure for Post-Acute Care (AM-PAC) or 6 Clicks are multidimensional measures to assess functional outcomes of patients in post-acute care settings. * Banner Mobility Assessment Tool (BMAT) is a tool designed for nurses to assess patient mobility at the bedside. * Functional Status Questionnaire has five sections of questions pertaining to physical function in ADLs, psychological function, role function, social function, and variety of performance measures. * Functional Status Screener is a two question screen. The first question asks if the patient has difficulty shopping for groceries and/or managing medications; second question asks if the patient has difficulty bathing on their own or walking across a room alone.   **Cont’d next page**  **IADL tools cont’d**   * John Hopkins Highest Level of Mobility (JHLM) is a performance measure of the patient's highest level of mobility achieved. * Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS), or Physical Function 5 (PF5), is a system of highly reliable, precise measures of patient–reported health status for physical, mental, and social well–being. * Performance-Oriented Mobility Assessment (POMA) was developed as a multidimensional balance assessment to predict the risk of falling in older adults.   Other tools are acceptable but must be standardized and published.  If another standardized and published tool is used, the tool must be named, and the questions and scoring must be in accordance with the authentic screening tool.  In order to answer “1,” the documentation must clearly indicate that IADLs were assessed using a standardized and published tool and the results must be documented. |
| 9 | iadldt | Enter the date of the most recent assessment of IADLs using a standardized and published tool. | mm/dd/yyyy   |  | | --- | | < = 12 months prior to or = stdybeg and < = stdyend |   Will be auto-filled as 99/99/9999 if  asesiadl = 2 | Exact date should be available in the record. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable. |

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|  |  | **Falls** |  |  |
| 10 | askfalls | During the past twelve months, was the patient asked about the presence/absence of any falls during the preceding 12 months?  1. Yes  2. No | 1,2  If 2, go to fallscrn | For persons age 75 or older, a falls history should be obtained on annual basis.  **In order to answer “1,” documentation within the past 12 months must indicate the patient was asked about the presence/absence of any falls during the preceding 12 months.**  **Suggested Data Sources:** Inpatient or outpatient record. Inpatient Nursing Assessment is suggested as a likely source. |
| 11 | askfaldt | Enter the date the patient was most recently questioned about falls during the preceding 12 months. | mm/dd/yyyy  If valid date, go to uicode   |  | | --- | | < = 12 months prior to or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | Exact date should be available in the record. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable. |

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| 12 | fallscrn | During the past twelve months, was a falls screening completed using a standardized falls screening tool?   1. Yes 2. No | 1,2  If 2 go to uicode | **In order to answer “1,” documentation within the past 12 months must indicate a falls screening was completed using a standardized fall screening tool (e.g., MAHC-10, Morse Fall Scale (MFS), Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) Fall Assessment, Dynamic Gait Index, 4 State Balance Test, Gait speed, Performance Oriented Mobility Assessment (POMA), 30-Second chair stand, and Timed up and go (TUG)).**   * The MAHC-10 uses a 10 point scale. A score or 4 or more indicates fall risk. * The MFS assesses six areas of fall risk (history of falling, secondary diagnosis, ambulatory aid, IV therapy/heparin lock, gait, and mental status). The fall risk score can range from 0 to 125. A score of 25 to 45 indicates moderate risk and a score greater than 45 indicates high risk for fall. * The STEADI Initiative Fall Assessment uses a 12-question tool. A score of 4 or greater indicates fall risk. If score is less than 4, ask if patient fell in past year and if “yes”, patient is at risk. * Dynamic Gait Index tests the ability of the participant to maintain walking balance while responding to different task demands, through various dynamic conditions. This test is useful for individuals with vestibular and balance problems and those at risk for falling. * 4 State Balance Test is a test of dynamic balance and coordination that clinically assess the participant’s ability to step over objects forward, sideways, and backwards. * Gait Speed is the time one takes to walk a specified distance on level surfaces over a short distance. * Performance Oriented Mobility Assessment (POMA) was developed as a multidimensional balance assessment to predict the risk of failing in older adults. * 30 Second Chair Stand involves recording the number of stands a person can complete in 30 seconds rather than the amount of time it takes to complete the predetermined number of repetitions.   **Cont’d next page**  **Falls tools cont’d**   * Timed up and go (TUG TEST) is where the patient is asked to use the chair to assist when standing up and the patient will walk to the line on the floor that is measured 3 meters away. The patient is asked to go on the word ‘GO’ and then walk to the line and back to his/her chair. Normal healthy elder usually completes the task in 1minute or less; very frail or weak elderly with poor mobility may take 2 minutes or more.   **Other** tools are acceptable but must be standardized and published.  If another standardized and published tool is used, the tool must be named, and the questions and scoring must be in accordance with the authentic screening tool.  **Suggested Data Sources:** Inpatient or outpatient record. Inpatient Nursing Assessment is suggested as a likely source. |
| 13 | fallscrndt | Enter the most recent date a falls screening was completed using a standardized falls screening tool. | mm/dd/yyyy   |  | | --- | | < = 12 months prior to or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | Enter the most recent date a falls screening was completed using a standardized falls screening tool. |
|  |  | **Urinary Incontinence** |  |  |
| 14 | uicode | Within the past 12 months, did the patient record contain a urinary incontinence  ICD-10-CM code R32, N3941, N393, N3946, N3942, N3943, N3944, N3945, N39490, N39498, or F980  1. Yes  2. No | \*1,2  \*If 1, go to end | ICD-10 R32, N3941, N393, N3946, N3942, N3943, N3944, N3945, N39490, N39498: Incontinence of urine codes  ICD-10 F980: enuresis of non-organic origin. Involuntary urination past age of normal control; also called bedwetting, no trace to biological problem; focus on psychological issues  ICD-10 N3644: detrusor sphincter dyssynergia  ICD-10 N3642: intrinsic (urethral) sphincter deficiency  ICD-10 N393: stress incontinence, female. Involuntary leakage of urine due to insufficient sphincter control; occurs upon sneezing, laughing, coughing, sudden movement, or lifting  ICD-10 R3981: Urinary incontinence, functional/urinary incontinence associated with cognitive impairment  **Oracle Health Suggested Data Source**: Problem List (found in Patient Summary) |

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| 15 | uiscrapp | Did the record document that screening for the presence of urinary incontinence is appropriate for this patient?   1. Yes 2. No, patient already known to have urinary incontinence 3. No, patient has a urinary ostomy appliance, supra-pubic catheter, or Foley catheter in place | 1,2,3  If 2 or 3, go to end | **Appropriate for UI screening** = Patients without known problem of urinary incontinence  If there is documentation of pre-existing urinary incontinence, enuresis, intrinsic (urethral) sphincter deficiency, or detrusor sphincter dyssynergia, select “2.”  If there is documentation the patient has a urinary ostomy appliance, supra-pubic catheter, or Foley catheter in place, answer “3.” |
| 16 | uiscreen | Within the past 12 months, was the patient screened for urinary incontinence?  1. Yes  2. No | 1, 2  If 2, go to end | **Acceptable as screening for urinary incontinence (UI):**   * UI observed (urine odor or stained garments, direct observation of urine loss during examination) * UI reported spontaneously * UI reported in response to specific questioning. There must be mention of questioning on “leakage”, “urine loss”, “incontinence”, or “urinary incontinence.” A generic review of systems listed as “negative for renal disease” or “no bowel or bladder problems” without mention of questioning for UI would not be acceptable. Documentation of “genitourinary system review of symptoms negative” is acceptable. * Assessment with the KATZ Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living with documented response to the “Continence” question. |
| 17 | uiscrndt | Enter the most recent date the patient was screened for urinary incontinence. | mm/dd/yyyy   |  | | --- | | < = 12 months prior to or = stdybeg and < = stdyend | | Exact date should be available in the record. The use of 01 to indicate missing day or month is not acceptable. |