

<b>OASIS ITEM:</b>
<p><b>(M0430) Intractable Pain:</b> Is the patient experiencing pain that is <u>not easily relieved</u>, occurs at least daily, and affects the patient's sleep, appetite, physical or emotional energy, concentration, personal relationships, emotions, or ability or desire to perform physical activity?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 0 - No  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Yes</p>
<b>DEFINITION:</b>
Identifies the presence of intractable pain, as defined in the item.
<b>TIME POINTS ITEM(S) COMPLETED:</b>
Start of care Resumption of care Discharge from agency – not to an inpatient facility
<b>RESPONSE—SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS:</b>
<b>ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES:</b>
<p>Intractable pain is pain that is ever present, may make the patient more irritable or less tolerant of frustrations, awakens her/him at night, and makes it difficult to get back to sleep. It may cause the patient to refrain from participating in activities that have been an important part of life, because she/he knows the activity will increase the pain or that the pain will be so significant that he/she can no longer enjoy the activity. A patient who has intractable pain may express much frustration (e.g., crying or anger) at how the pain is interfering with life. As you assess the patient's medications and activities, elicit whether or not the patient's pain fits these descriptions. Ask the patient if the pain is present despite taking analgesic medication regularly as prescribed.</p> <p>Assessing pain in a nonverbal patient involves observation of facial expression (e.g., frowning, gritting teeth), monitoring heart rate, respiratory rate, perspiration, pallor, pupil size, irritability, or use of visual analog pain scales.</p>