OASIS ITEM:

(M0770) Ability to Use Telephone: Ability to answer the phone, dial numbers, and effectively use the telephone to communicate.

Prior	Current			
☐	☐	0	-	Able to dial numbers and answer calls appropriately and as desired.
☐	☐	1	-	Able to use a specially adapted telephone (i.e., large numbers on the dial, teletype phone for the deaf) and call essential numbers.
☐	☐	2	-	Able to answer the telephone and carry on a normal conversation but has difficulty with placing calls.
☐	☐	3	-	Able to answer the telephone only some of the time or is able to carry on only a limited conversation.
☐	☐	4	-	Unable to answer the telephone at all but can listen if assisted with equipment.
☐	☐	5	-	Totally unable to use the telephone.
☐	☐	NA	-	Patient does not have a telephone.
☐		UK	-	Unknown

DEFINITION:

Identifies the ability of the patient to answer the phone, dial number, and effectively use the telephone to communicate. The prior column should describe the patient's ability 14 days prior to the start (or resumption) of care visit. The focus for today's assessment – the "current" column – is on what the patient is able to do today.

TIME POINTS ITEM(S) COMPLETED:

Start of care - prior and current ability
Resumption of care - prior and current ability
Discharge from agency - not to an inpatient facility -- current ability

RESPONSE—SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS:

- "UK - Unknown" is an option only in the "prior" column. This response should be used only if there is no way to determine the patient's prior ability on this item.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES:

A combined observation/interview approach with the patient or caregiver is required to determine the most accurate response for this item. Does the patient have access to a telephone? Information obtained during assessment of cognitive, behavioral, and other ADL assessments may be helpful in determining the most accurate response for this item. The safety assessment also provides data regarding emergency plans - how is the ability to use a telephone related to these plans?