MDS 3.0 Technical Information

What's New -

February 05, 2019

A new version (V3.00.0) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications was posted. This version is scheduled to become effective October 1, 2019. Note that there are many significant changes, including the removal of eight item sets (NS, NSD, NO, NOD, SS, SSD, SO, SOD), the addition of two new item sets (IPA and OSA), and item additions in Sections A, GG, I, J, O and Z. These specs accommodate the utilization of the PDPM grouper, which also begins on October 1, 2019.

In addition, a new version (V1.04.0) of the MDS 3.0 CAT Specifications was posted. This version is also scheduled to become effective October 1, 2019. The specification for CAT 12 (Nutritional Status) has been updated in accordance with the changes in V3.00.0 of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications.

January 09, 2019

An updated errata (V2.02.4) was posted for the FINAL version (v2.02.1) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications, which went into effect on October 1, 2018. Several additional items were mapped to edit -3897, and edit -3907 was discontinued. Note that these changes are already in production for ASAP, jRAVEN, and the VUT.

January 07, 2019

Data Collection Software: jRAVEN

The Resident Assessment Validation and Entry System (jRAVEN) was developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). jRAVEN is a free Java based software application which provides an option for facilities to collect and maintain MDS Assessment data for subsequent submission to the appropriate state and/or national data repository. jRAVEN displays the MDS Item Sets similar to the paper version of the forms. Please consult the jRAVEN Installation and User Guides for additional information.

jRAVEN v1.6.1 is now available for download under the related links section at the bottom of this webpage. Users do not need a previous version of jRAVEN to download, install or use jRAVEN v1.6.1.

jRAVEN v1.6.1 includes the following enhancements:

- VUT Version V2.2.2
- Data Spec Errata V2.02.4 to v2.02.1 of the Data Specs for MDS 3.0
- Windows 10 software upgrade

For additional questions related to jRAVEN or technical support please contact the QTSO Help Desk by calling 800-339-9313 or by email to help@qtso.com.

January 03, 2019

A new DRAFT version of the 2019 MDS item sets (v1.17.0) has been posted. This version is scheduled to become effective October 1, 2019. The files are located in the Downloads section below.

August 27, 2018

An errata (V2.02.3) was posted for the FINAL version (v2.02.1) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications, which are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2018. One issue was identified with edit -3896a.

August 23, 2018

The FINAL version (V2.02.1) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications was posted. This version is scheduled to become effective October 1, 2018. The files are located in the Downloads section below.

August 17, 2018

A final version of the 2018 MDS item sets (v1.16.1) was posted. This version contains revised skip pattern language in N0450A and N0450D and the removal of skip pattern language in N2001. In addition, instructions were added to the item label in N2003. This version is scheduled to become effective October 1, 2018. The files are located in the Downloads section below.

July 10, 2018

An updated errata (V2.02.2) was posted for the DRAFT version (v2.02.0) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications, which are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2018. Three additional issues have been identified; one additional edit was defined, one existing edit was revised, and one correction was identified for the Edit Change Report posted on April 9, 2018.

April 09, 2018

The Edit Change Report posted in the DRAFT version (v2.02.0) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications is missing the second page of the report. A replacement PDF of the report containing the missing page was posted.

March 28, 2018

An errata (V2.02.1) was posted for the DRAFT version (v2.02.0) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications, which are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2018. Ten issues have been identified; five are revisions to edits and five are new edits.

January 25, 2018

A new version (V2.02.0) of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications was posted. This version is scheduled to become effective October 1, 2018. This DRAFT version incorporates the changes identified for the DRAFT version (v1.16.0) of the MDS 3.0 item sets. Note that there are significant changes to Section GG, I, J and M.

In addition, a new version (V1.03.0) of the MDS 3.0 CAT Specifications was posted. This version is also scheduled to become effective October 1, 2018. The specification for CAT 16 (Pressure Ulcer) has been updated in accordance with the changes in V2.02.0 of the MDS 3.0 Data Specifications.

MDS 3.0 Technical Information:

The following files contain technical information related to the MDS 3.0 and are now available under the Downloads section of this page:

- MDS 3.0 Data Submission Specifications (V1.15.0) Detailed MDS 3.0 data submission specifications for implementation on 10-01-2015. (Updated 03-17-2015)
- RUG-III and RUG-IV Files (posted together):
 - RUG IV Files:
 - RUG-IV Specifications and DLL Package (V1.03.0 Final) Final Version 1.03.0 handles revised RUG-IV classification effective 10/1/2013. (updated 08-08-2013)
 - RUG-IV Unsmoothed and Smoothed Average Nursing Staff Time Means for the 66-Group, 57-Group and 48-Group Models Package (V.100). The unsmoothed and smoothed means are presented in PDF and CSV format. A PDF document describes the detailed methods used to smooth the nursing means.

o RUG III Files:

- RUG-III MDS 3.0 Mapping Specifications (V1.00.5) This document presents logic that can be used to produce RUG-III classifications using assessment items contained on MDS 3.0 and accommodates item set changes for assessments on or after October 1, 2013 as well as earlier assessments. (updated 4-11-2013).
- RUG-III MDS 3.0 Version Converter DLL (V1.00.4) The RugVersionConverter.dll is designed to accept a fixed-format MDS 3.0 string, convert payment items to MDS 2.0 format, and return a fixedformat MDS 2.0 string. The MDS 2.0 string can then be submitted to the RUG-III grouper DLL (RUG520.DLL) to obtain a RUG-III group. This version of the Converter DLL processes MDS 3.0 strings made in accordance with v1.00.5 of the RUG-III MDS 3.0 Mapping Specifications. (updated 4-11-2013)
- RUG-III Grouper Package (5.20) Logic, test data, programs, and DLL to calculate RUG-III classification for MDS 2.0 records. This package can be used in conjunction with the RUG-III MDS 3.0 Mapping Specifications

- or Version Converter DLL to calculate RUG-III classification for MDS 3.0 records.
- RUG-III Errata Document Provides information about errors in the RAB and RAA group ADL ranges in three documents in the RUG-III V5.20 Package. Document is dated 09-03-2010. (Updated 09-23-2010)
- **RUG-III STRIVE Nursing CMIs (V1.00)** The nursing CMIs and nursing staff time means for the RUG-III groups (Version 5.20) based on the STRIVE staff time study are available for use in state Medicaid systems.

Questions regarding the information on this page should be directed to **mdstechissues@cms.hhs.gov**. Please note that CMS will not be providing an individualized response to each inquiry; however, CMS will make sure the issues or comments are addressed in the upcoming MDS 3.0 training sessions or updates to the information provided on this page.

The information listed below under the "Downloads" section is subject to change. CMS will communicate any changes to these materials on this page as well as through Open Door Forums hosted by CMS.