



HEALTH

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## The MDS 3.0

## Improving Assessment

Special Open Door Forum

January 24, 2008

## ***Main Advances in MDS 3.0***

- **Gives Resident Voice**
- **Increases clinical relevance**
- **Increases accuracy (validity & reliability)**
- **Increases clarity**
- **Reduces time to complete by 45%**

## *Why Resident Voice?*

- **CMS's goal is to increase resident-centered care**
  - Respect for individual voice
  - Fundamental to high quality & culture change
  - Residents and families want care to be individualized and accurate
- **Improves accuracy, feasibility, efficiency**
  - General, unfocused questions do not elicit meaningful reports
  - Detailed daily observations of all behaviors for all residents is time consuming and not feasible



HEALTH

***How did we identify  
and test these advances?***

# *The Evaluation Team Had 6 Sets of Players*

- **Lead research and administrative team**
  - RAND: Debra Saliba, MD, MPH
  - Harvard: Joan Buchanan, PhD
  - Administrative Lead: Malia Jones
- **National VA Nursing Home Research Collaborative**
  - Los Angeles, CA
  - Philadelphia, PA
  - Atlanta, GA
  - Bedford, MA
- **Lead Quality Improvement Organization:**  
Colorado Foundation for Medical Care
- **Instructions, Guides and Form Design:**  
Carelink, RRS Consulting, Kleimann Communications Group
- **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**
- **Workgroups, consultants, content experts**

# *MDS 3.0 Development Proceeded in 4 Phases*

**CMS Revised Draft MDS 3.0**

2003

Phase 1: Stakeholder  
and Expert Feedback

**Townhall Meeting  
& Open Comment**

**Expert Panel  
Meetings**

Phase 2: MDS 3.0 Item  
Development

**VA Validation  
Protocol Research**

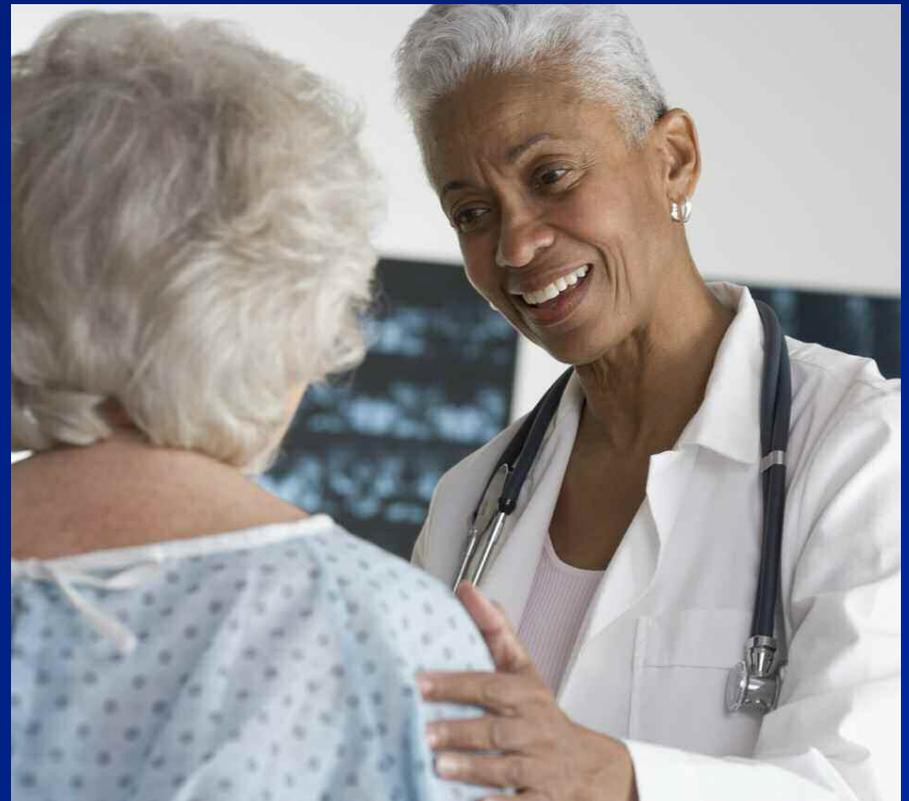
**Integration of  
Phase 1 Feedback**

2007

# *Phase 2 Improved Key MDS Sections and Revised MDS Items*

The VA Pilot Developed and Tested MDS Items in 8 Areas

- **Mood**
- **Behavior disorders**
- **Mental status**
- **Delirium**
- **Pain**
- **Falls**
- **Quality of life**
- **Diagnostic coding**



# *Findings of VA Research*

## **Depression**

- Self-report is feasible & efficient
- Yields more valid estimates

## **Pain**

- Self-report is feasible & efficient
- Yields more valid estimates than observation
- Ascertaining impact on function is feasible and provides useful information

## **Customary Routine and Activities**

- As recommended by TEP and Validation panel, asking importance is feasible

# *Findings of VA Research*

## **Diagnoses**

- Algorithms to define active diagnosis improve identification compared to administrative data

## **Delirium**

- Revised protocol and instruction improved agreement

## **Cognition**

- Structured interview is feasible and welcomed by staff

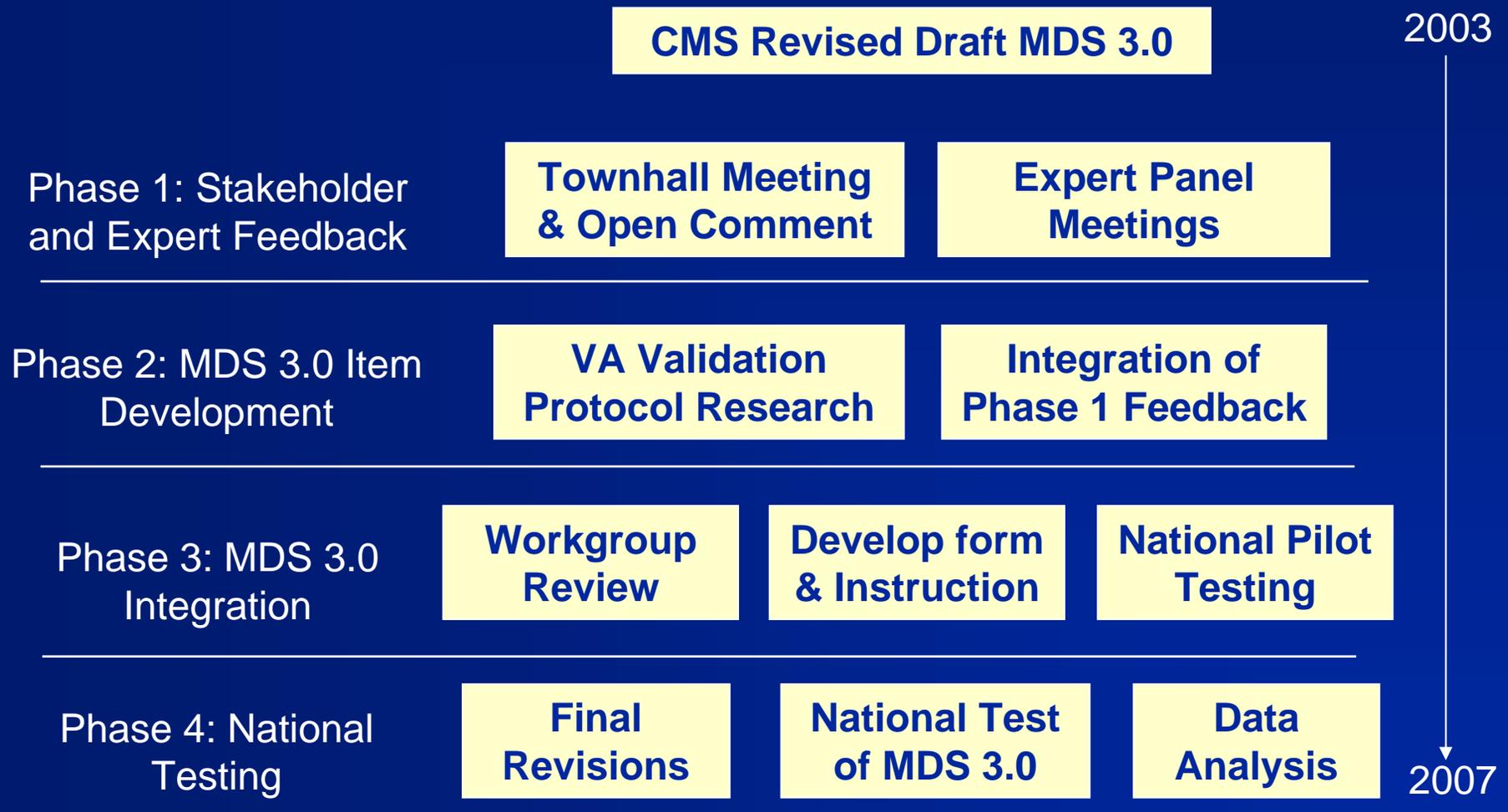
## **Falls**

- Simplified response options can be used by NH staff to classify falls

## **Behavior**

- Items can consider impact on resident

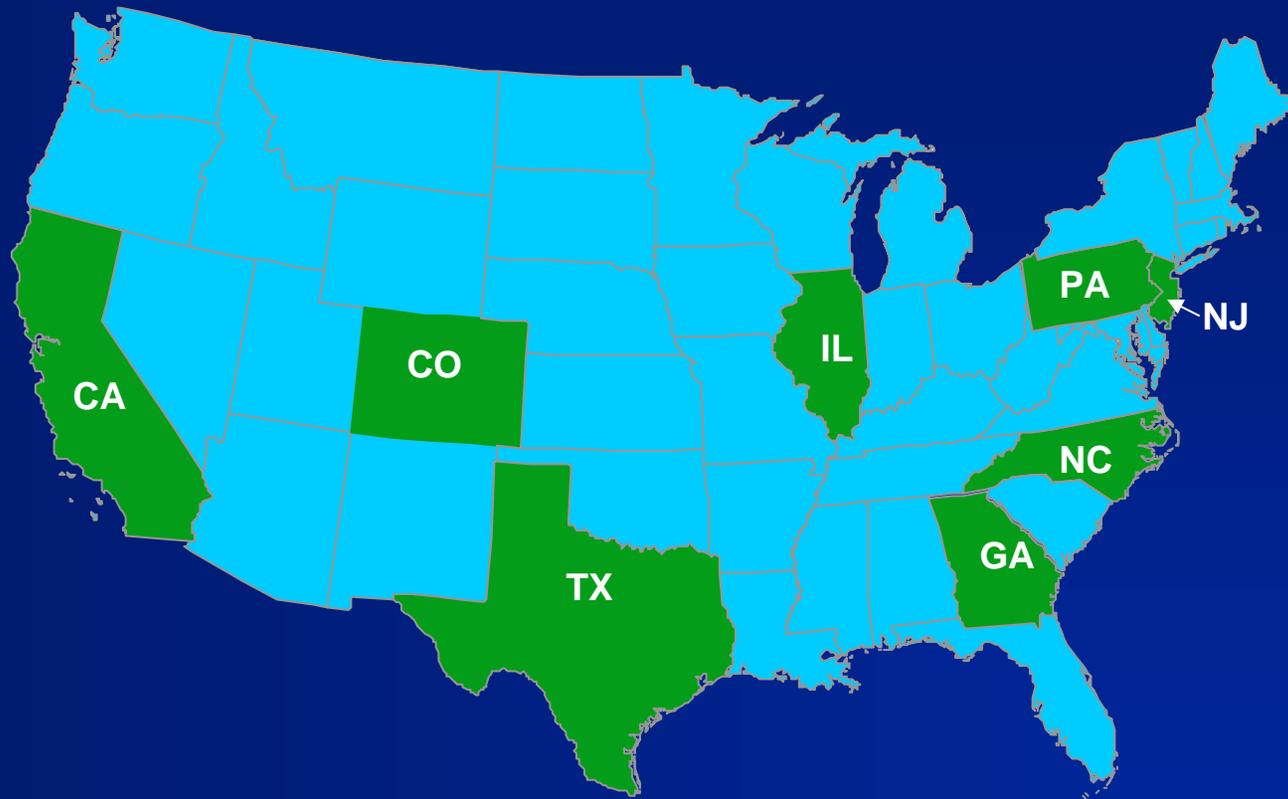
# *MDS 3.0 Development Proceeded in 4 Phases*



## *Revised Form Design*

- **Form structured to improve usability**
  - **Important definitions put on form**
  - **Larger font**
  - **Logical breaks, fewer items to a page**
- **Items that were confusing or not needed for programming deleted**

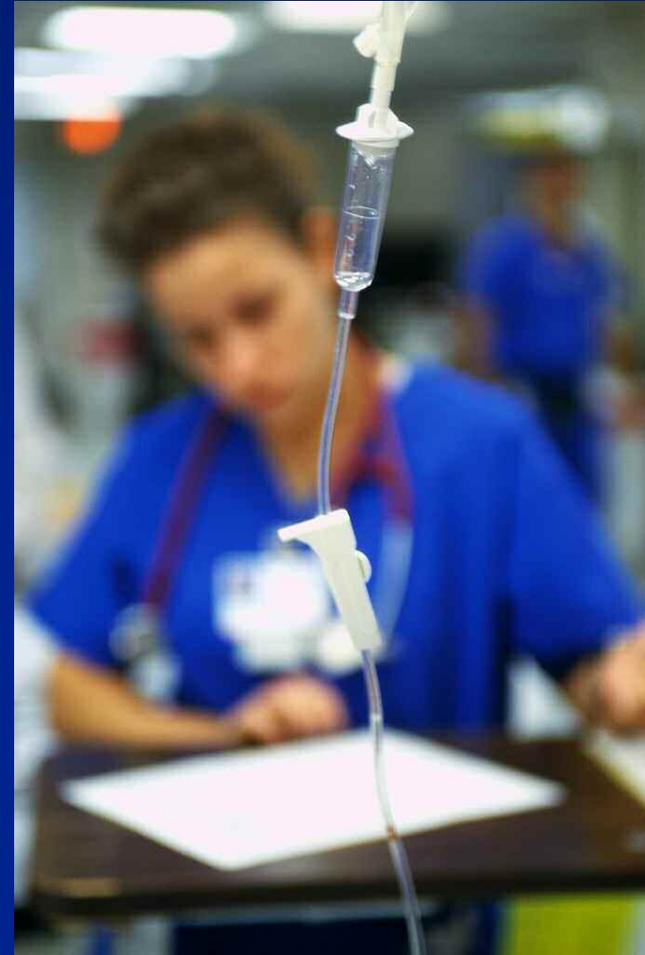
# ***MDS 3.0 Was Tested 71 NHs in 8 States***



**3800 residents participated in different parts of the evaluation**

## *Different Types of Data Collectors Tested MDS 3.0*

- Each state had 2 gold standard nurse data collectors
- Each nursing home had 1 facility nurse data collector



# ***The National Test Measured Reliability and Validity of MDS 3.0***

## **Reliability of MDS 3.0**

- **Inter-rater reliability measures the extent to which two data collectors achieve the same results when assessing the same event**
  - 1. Gold-standard to Gold Standard**
  - 2. Gold-standard to Facility Nurse**

## **Validity of MDS 3.0**

- **Validity assesses the degree to which items measure the intended concept**
  - **content**
  - **criterion**
  - **construct**

# Additional Evaluation Elements

- **Time to complete**
  - Recorded all start and stop times for both MDS 2.0 and MDS 3.0
- **Two Anonymous Nurse Surveys**
  - Mailed to all nurses who participated
  - MDS 2.0 survey first
  - MDS 3.0 survey completed at end of study
  - Provided feedback on
    - Clinical usefulness of measures
    - Clarity and ease of completion
    - Satisfaction with assessment instrument
- **MDS 2.0 collected to allow cross walk between instruments and into payment cells**



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***Review of 5 Sections with  
Major Revisions***

# ***1. MDS 3.0 Cognitive Assessment***

## **Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS)**

- New structured test replaces staff assessment for residents who can be understood

## **Staff Assessment for Mental Status**

- Only completed for residents who cannot complete interview

## **Validated Confusion Assessment Method (CAM)**

- Replaces old delirium items

# ***Rationale for Cognitive Changes***

## **Old cognitive item:**

- **Providers express discomfort with observation-based scoring**
  - “long term memory OK” and “short term memory OK” items are not recognized by most providers
  - Only 29% thought MDS 2.0 easy to complete accurately
- **Instructs to use a formal assessment, but does not provide assessment or cross walk from standard assessment to 2.0**
- **CPS and COGs scales are not readily completed by NH staff**

## **New cognitive item:**

- **Directly tests domains common to most cognitive tests in other settings –registration, temporal orientation, recall**
  - Partial credit for close answers & response to prompts makes more relevant for population
- **Supports validated delirium assessment protocols**

## ***Rationale for Delirium Changes***

**Delirium is a serious condition associated with increased mortality, morbidity, costs and institutionalization**

**Old delirium items:**

- **Reliability in some studies worse than chance**
- **Independent evaluations show significant under-detection with unstructured observation**

**New delirium items = Confusion Assessment Method (CAM)**

- **CAM is cited as appropriate tool by Royal College of Physicians, NCQA, other guidelines**
- **Improved sensitivity & specificity for detecting delirium**

## ***BIMS Feedback Survey Results***

- **80% thought BIMS improved ability to calculate score and trigger RAPs**
- **78% preferred BIMS interview to old assessment items**
- **88% reported that BIMS provided new insights into resident's cognitive abilities**



## ***Results: Cognitive Item Performance***

- **BIMS showed excellent reliability (kappa for score = .95)**
- **Completion rates were high**
  - **85% of residents were able to complete**
    - **Scores ranged from 0-15**



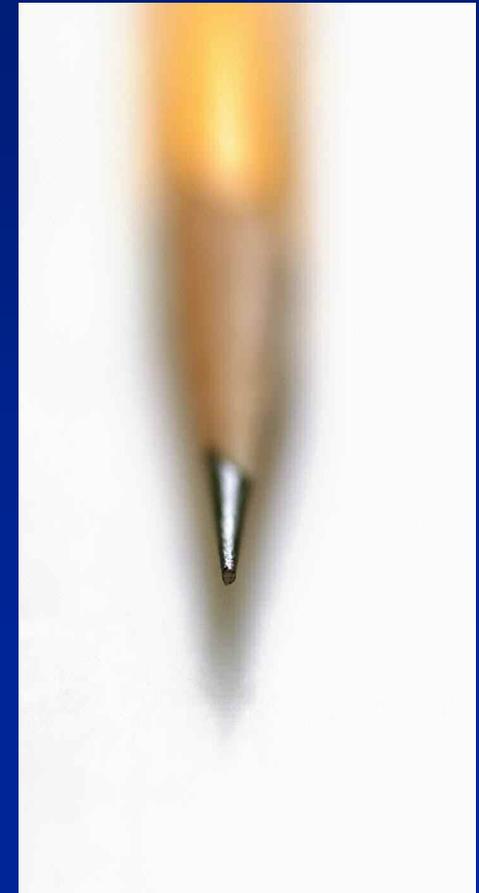
## ***BIMS had excellent performance as a test to detect impairment***

- **BIMS was more highly correlated with gold-standard measure**
  - **MDS. 3.0 BIMS = 0.91 (< .0001)**
  - **MDS 2.0 CPS = - 0.74 (<.0001)**
- **BIMs had a higher area under the receiver operating characteristics curve (AUC) for detecting impairment**
  - **BIMS AUC = .930**
  - **CPS AUC = .824**

(AUC: 1 = a perfect test .5= worthless)

## ***Delirium Feedback Survey Results***

- **85% found definitions on form clear**
- **71% felt that CAM helped them do a better job of screening for delirium (7% disagreed)**
- **64% reported that BIMS led them to observe new delirium behaviors that differed from those in medical record**

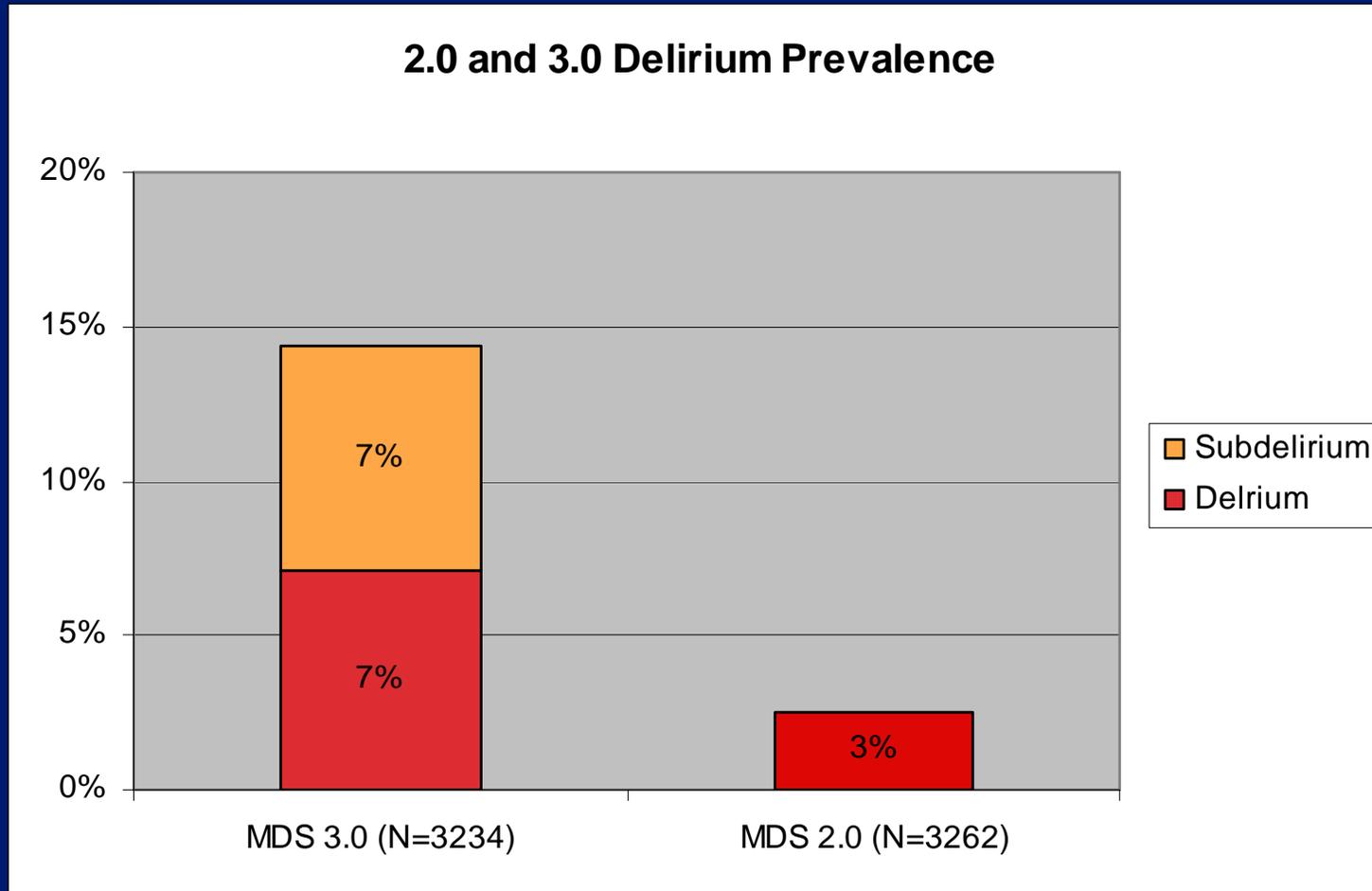


## *Delirium showed very good reliability*



- Item reliabilities ranged from  
kappa = .75 to .89

# *Delirium prevalence more consistent with expected rates*



## ***2. MDS 3.0 Mood Assessment***

### **PHQ-9**

New resident interview replaces staff observations for residents who can report mood symptoms

### **Staff Assessment of PHQ-9-OV**

New observational items replace old staff assessment and only completed for residents who cannot self-report

- Includes irritability item

# ***Rationale for Replacing Mood Items***

## **Old mood item:**

- **Repeatedly shown to have poor correspondence with independent mood assessment**
  - **Does not comport with accepted standard of self-report**
  - **Requires time consuming systematic observations of ALL residents across all shifts. Difficult to achieve.**
    - **Only 22% reported that 2.0 section was easy to complete accurately**
- **Questionable utility for gauging response to treatment, since appropriate approach is targeting DSM-IV signs and symptoms**

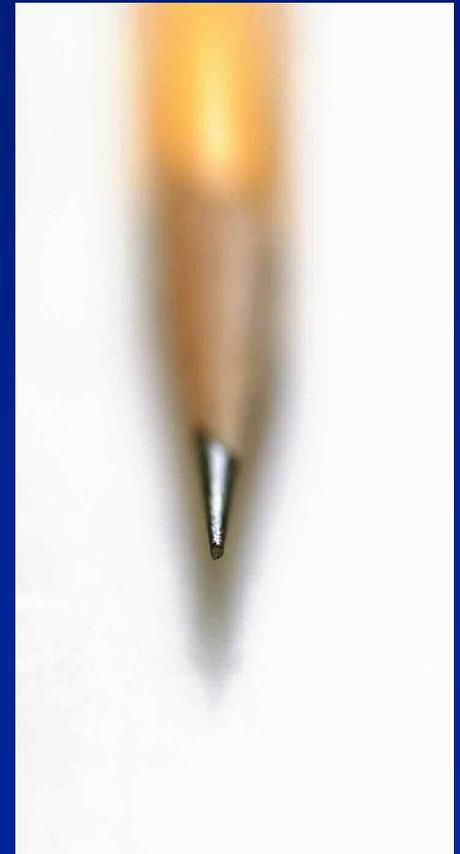
# ***Rationale for Replacing Mood Items***

## **New mood item (PHQ-9)**

- **Based on DSM-IV criteria**
- **Validity well established in other settings**
- **Increasing use and recognition by clinicians**
- **Allows threshold definition AND rapid sum of a severity score that can track change over time**
- **Has been used in outpatient elders, hospital, rehabilitation (post stroke) and home health populations in addition to younger adult populations**

## ***Mood Feedback Results***

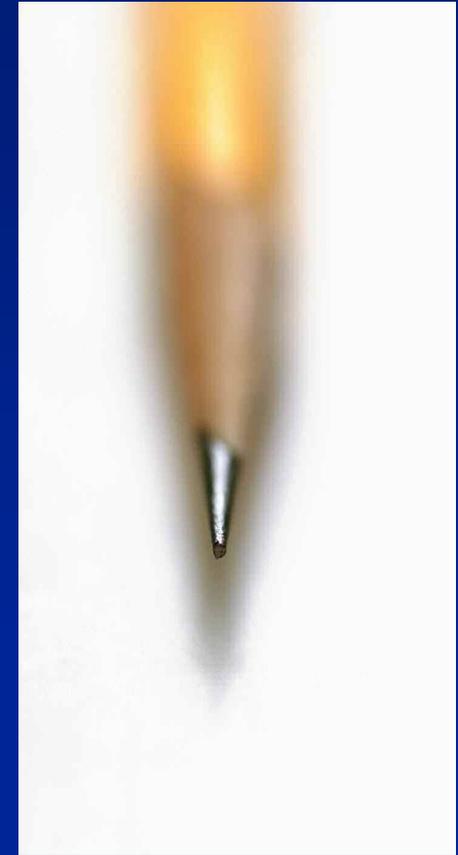
- **87% nurses rated the mood section as improved over 2.0 section**
- **88% felt PHQ-9 interview was better than 2.0 observation for capturing resident mood**
- **84% felt the items could inform care plans**
- **86% reported that items provided new insights into mood**



# *Feedback*

## *Staff Mood Assessment*

- 90% felt that detection and communication about mood would improve if staff learned to watch for these signs and symptoms
- 72% found PHQ-9-OV assessment easier than MDS 2.0



## *PHQ-9 showed excellent reliability*

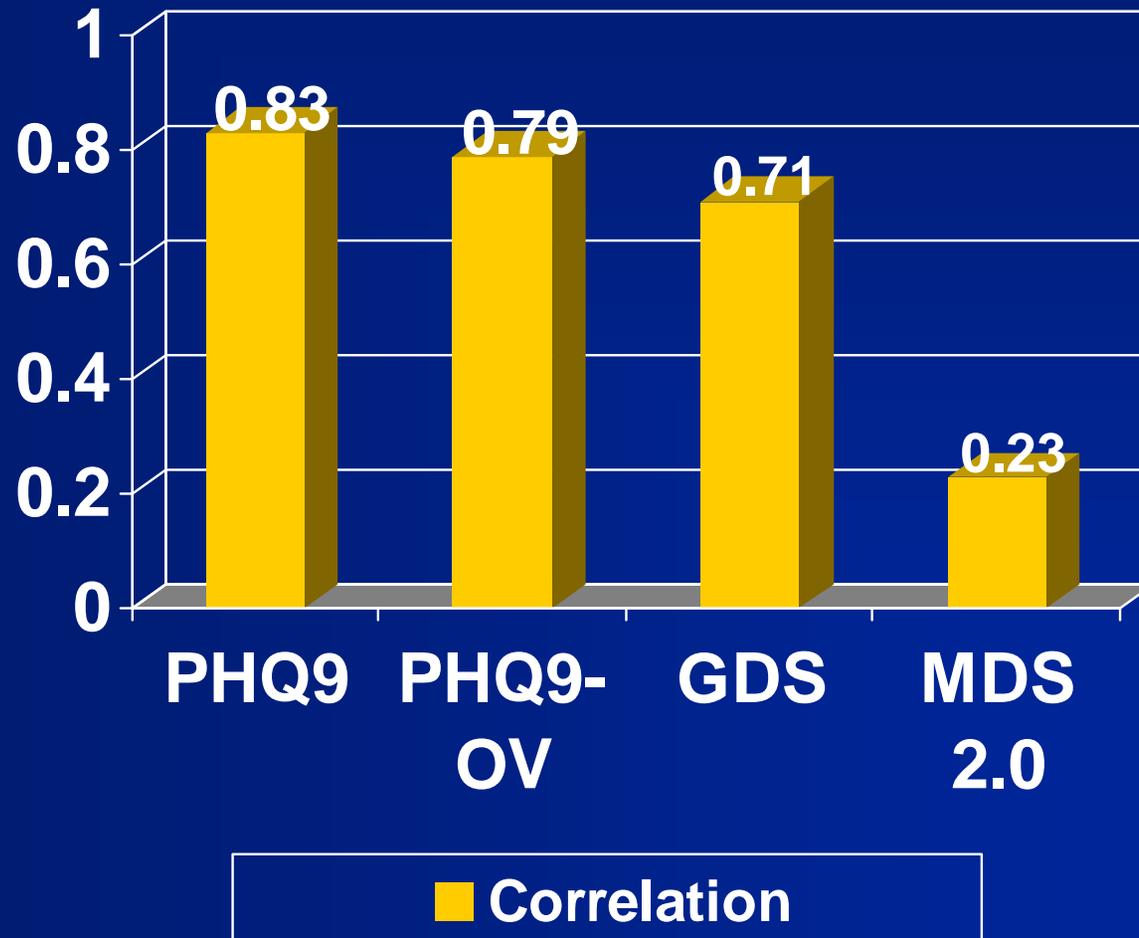


- Resident Mood Interview
  - Kappa: 0.94
- Staff Mood Observations
  - Kappa: 0.93

## ***Ability of Residents to Complete PHQ-9***

- **82% of non-comatose residents were able to complete interview**

## *PHQ-9 interview had best agreement with Gold Standard*



## **3. MDS 3.0 Behavior Items**

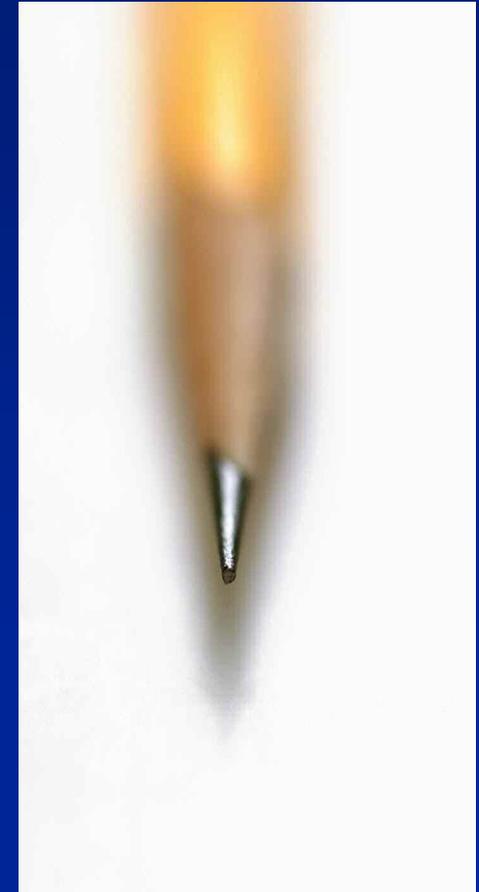
- **Hallucinations and psychosis**
  - moved from checklist in section J & definitions put on form
- **Behaviors**
  - Revised language clearer, linked to operational definitions
  - Revised symptom groupings to match constructs
  - Replaced “alterability” with specific impact questions
  - Replaced “resisting care” with “reject care” and refocused on resident’s goals of care
- **Wandering rated separately from the 3 behavioral symptoms groups, and impact replaces alterability**

# *Rationale For Changes*

- **Old behavior item groupings were not consistent with recognized factors**
  - **Only 41% of nurses rated MDS 2.0 items as easy to complete accurately**
- **Old behavior item labels were viewed as pejorative by consumers, did not convey potential expression of unmet need**
  - **New labels agreed to by providers & consumers**
- **Staff varied widely in definition of “alterability”**
  - **Alterability does not distinguish ongoing behaviors that require intervention**
- **New specific impact items give insight into severity and potential need for treatment/intervention**

# ***Behavior Feedback Survey Results***

- **90% rated behavioral symptoms as easy to complete accurately**
- **91% nurses preferred the 3.0 behavior item section (1% disagreed)**
- **90-94% rated new behavioral symptoms items as clear**
- **88% rated impact items as providing important severity information**



## *Behavior section reliability was excellent*



- **Psychosis, kappa = 0.96**
- **Overall kappa for all other behavioral items = 0.94**

## ***MDS 3.0 had Significantly Stronger Agreement with Gold Standard***

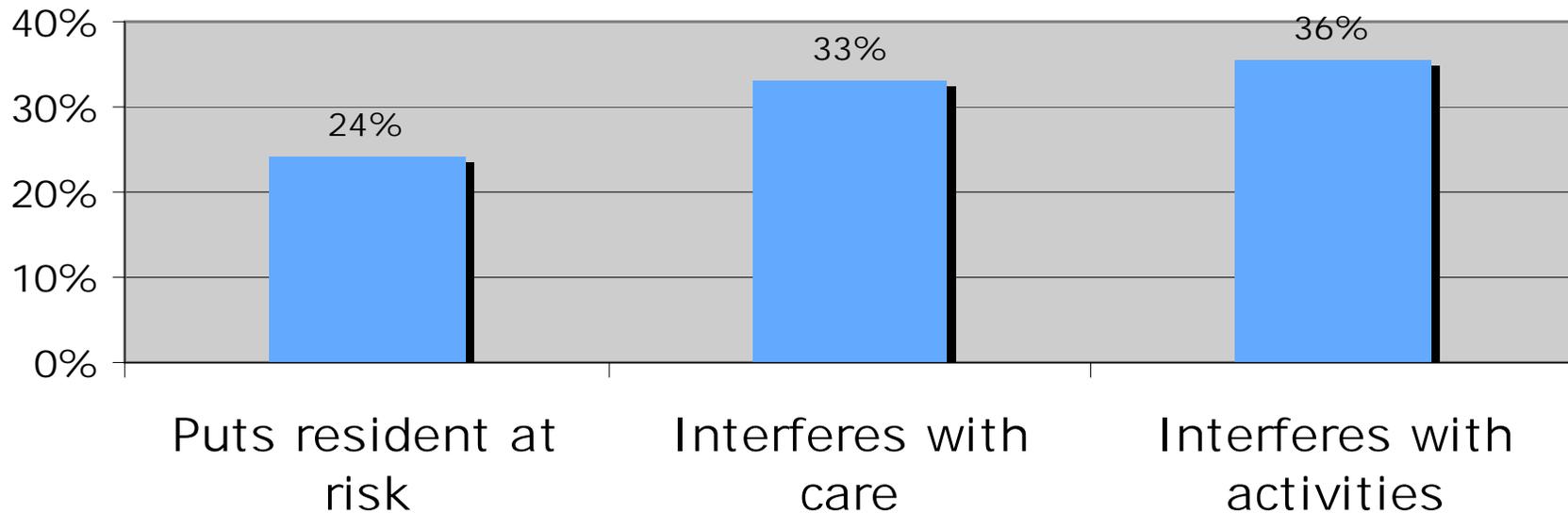
<b>CMAI Factor</b>	<b>MDS 3.0 Kappa (95% CI)</b>	<b>MDS 2.0 Kappa (95% CI)</b>
<b>Physical toward others</b>	<b>.86 (.74, .97)</b>	<b>.23 (.03, .43)</b>
<b>Verbal toward others</b>	<b>.73 (.61, .84)</b>	<b>.31 (.16, .45)</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>.53 (.42, .66)</b>	<b>.22 (.12, .31)</b>

## ***MDS 3.0 Psychoses item also had Stronger Agreement with Criterion***

<b>NPI, Presence</b>	<b>MDS 3.0 Kappa (95% CI)</b>	<b>MDS 2.0 Kappa (95% CI)</b>
<b>Hallucinations</b>	<b>.92 (.81, 1.00)</b>	<b>.23 (.03, .43)</b>
<b>Delusions</b>	<b>.88 (.79, .98)</b>	<b>.31 (.16, .45)</b>

# Type of Impact on Resident Varies

MDS 3.0 Behavioral Symptoms: Impact on Resident (N=317)



## **4. MDS 3.0 Customary Routine & Activities**

- **Preferred Routine**
  - New interview replaces 20 Customary Routine staff assessment items for residents who can be interviewed
  - Current importance rating replaces check all that apply in past year
- New interview for activities preferences replaces 12 staff assessment items for residents who can be interviewed
- **Want to talk to someone about returning to community**
- **Staff Assessment of Activity and Daily Preferences**
  - Only completed for residents who cannot complete interview
  - Major changes to several items; instructed to observe resident response during exposure to activity

# *Rationale for changes*

## Old items

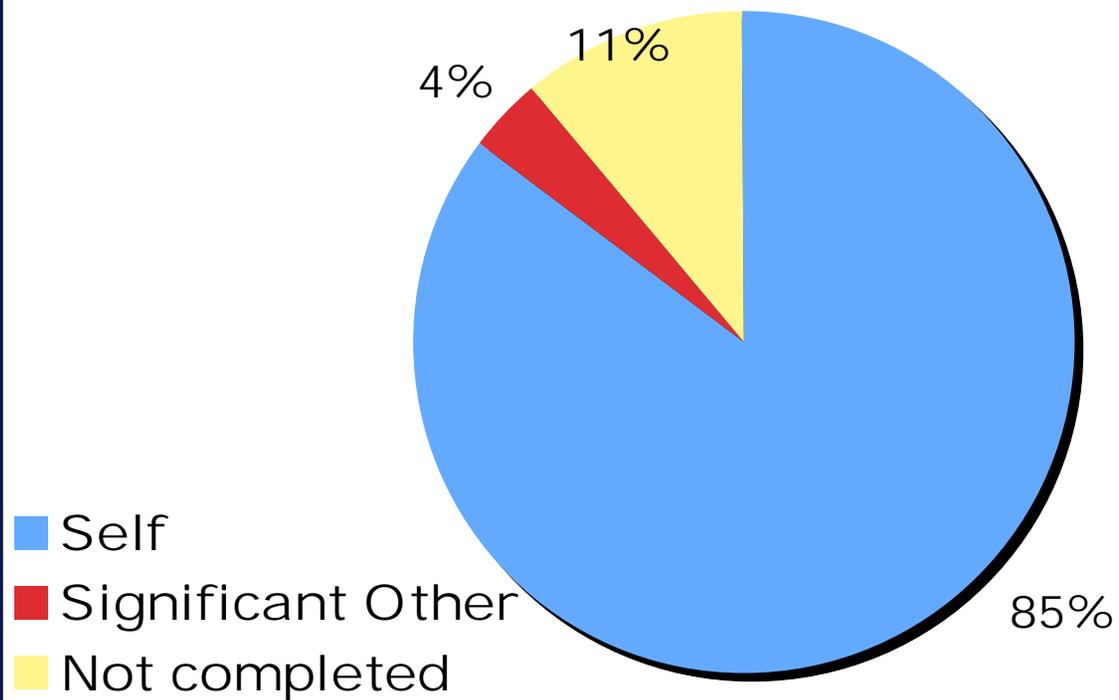
- **Not perceived as helping with care planning**
  - Prior practice could be related to ability, illness, access, not to preference
  - Only 30% rated 2.0 as helping care planning
- **TEP and Validation Panels both recommended replace with importance scales**

## New Items (Preference Assessment Tool or PAT)

- **Grounded in residential care quality**
- **Map to U Minnesota QoL domains**
- **Focuses on resident as central to determining activities**

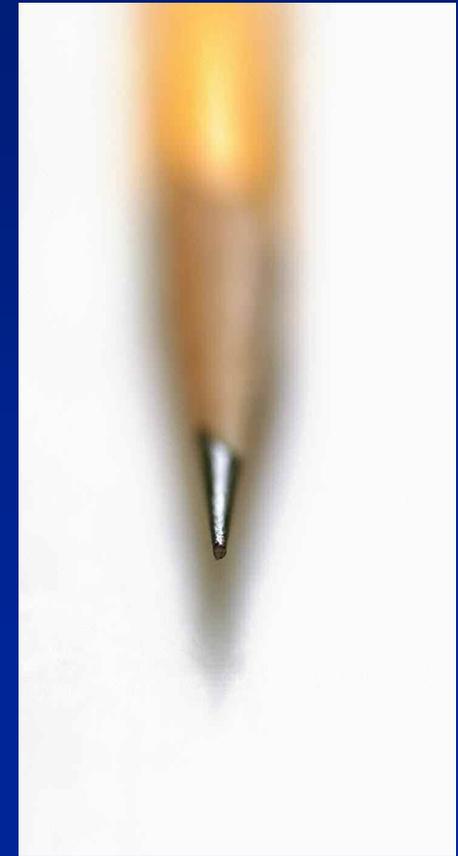
## *Residents were able to complete*

Primary Respondent for  
Preferred Routine &  
Activities (N=3246)



## ***Customary Routine Feedback Results***

- **81% rated the interview items as more useful for care planning**
- **80% found that the interview changed their impression of resident's wants**
- **More likely to report that post-acute residents appreciated being asked**
- **Only 1% felt that some residents who responded didn't really understand the items**



## ***Activity Feedback Results***

- **77% rated as more useful for care planning (1% disagreed)**
- **83% found that the interview changed their impression of resident's wants**
- **Equally likely to report that post-acute residents appreciated being asked**
- **90% responded that residents answering questions understood (0% disagreed)**



# *Customary Routine & Activities Agreement was Excellent*



- Preferred Routine  
kappa = 0.97
- Activities 0.96  
kappa = 0.96
- Staff assessment of preferences:  
kappa = 0.93

***Overall scores were similar across cognitive groups for daily routine***

<b>Cognitive group</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Mean (sd)</b>
<b>Intact</b> (n=1384)	<b>0 - 4</b>	<b>2.44 (1.08)</b>
<b>Impaired</b> (n = 734)	<b>0 - 4</b>	<b>2.60 (1.05)</b>
<b>Severely impaired</b> (n=827)	<b>0 - 4</b>	<b>2.46 (1.09)</b>

**Same pattern was seen with activity items**

## ***5. MDS 3.0 Pain Assessment Items***

- **Treatment items added**
- **Resident interview replaces staff observations for residents who can report pain symptoms**
- **Section expanded to capture effect on function**
- **Staff assessment of pain changed to an observational checklist of pain behaviors and only completed for residents who cannot self-report**

# ***Rationale for Replacing Pain Items***

## **Old pain item**

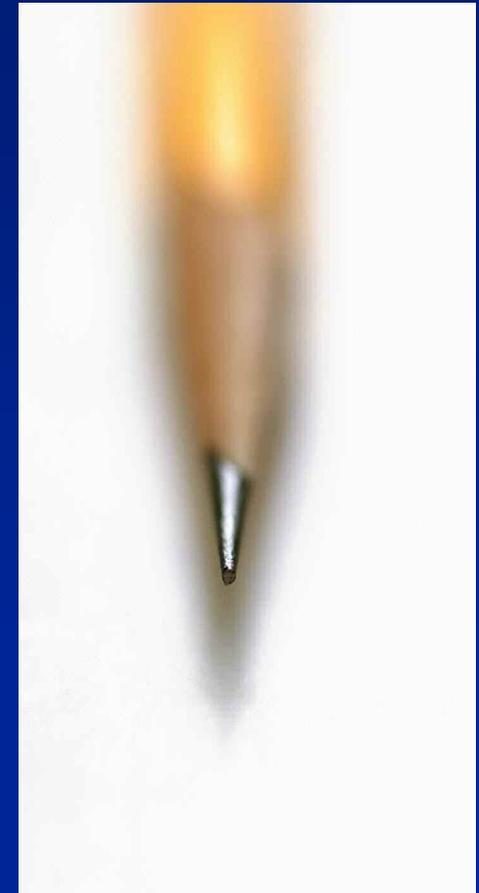
- **Repeatedly shown to have poor correspondence with independent pain assessments**
  - **Does not comport with accepted standard of self report**
  - **Requires time consuming systematic observations of all residents across all shifts**
  - **Detection bias penalizes more vigilant facilities**
- **Providers and consumers frustrated that section addresses limited characteristics, insufficient to capture pain experience**
  - **3 point severity response insufficient and not match commonly used pain scales. Want severity response between “moderate” & “horrible or excruciating”**

## ***Rationale for New Pain Items***

- **CMS and providers requested items to capture therapy**
- **Self-report is the gold standard for pain assessment**
  - **Pilot test showed ability to recall over 5 days**
- **With pain being reported as “5<sup>th</sup> vital sign” providers have increasingly used 0-10 scales in NHs & other settings**
  - **0-10 scale would allow comparison across settings**

## ***Pain Feedback was Positive***

- **91-97% of nurses rated pain management item definitions clear**
- **88% rated MDS 3.0 pain items as improved over MDS 2.0**
- **94% reported that new pain items could inform care plans**
  - **Even during testing, pain interview provided new insights into resident's pain (85%)**
- **90% felt that all residents who responded, understood (3% disagreed)**
- **85% felt the observable behaviors would improve reporting of possible pain**



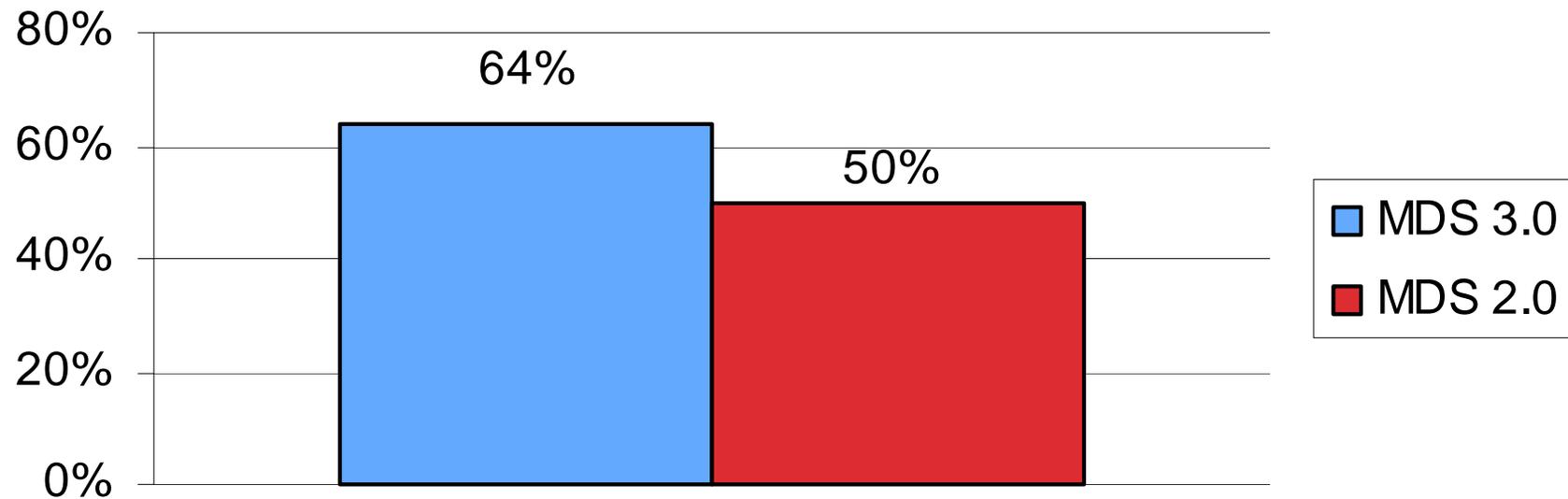
## ***Results Pain Item Performance***

- **Pain Items showed excellent reliability**
  - **Pain treatment & interview (J1-J7)**
    - **kappa = 0.92**
  - **Staff assessment of pain (J9)**
    - **kappa = 0.97**
- **Completion rates were high**
  - **85% of non-comatose residents were able to complete the pain interview**



# Pain Presence

## Pain Presence Validation Sample



# *Other Measures of Agreement*

## Temporal reliability

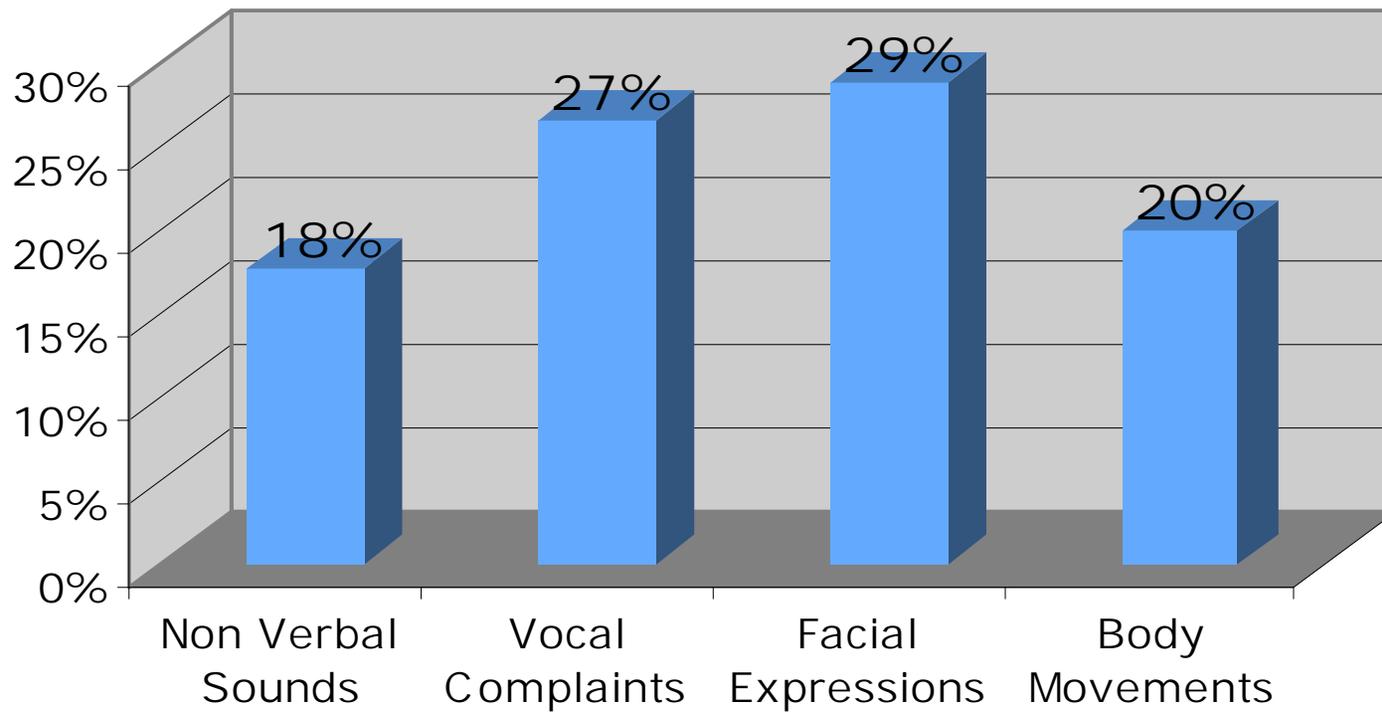
- Interview 24 hours later (different assessor also)
  - kappa = .9242 (.8837, .9647)

## Agreement with MDS 2.0

- kappa = .4812 (.3962, .5662)

# Staff Assessment of Pain

3.0 Staff Assessment of Pain (N=45)



**43 % with any symptom**

## *Other Sections with Important Changes*

- **Pressure ulcer**
  - eliminated reverse staging
  - adds present on admit
- **Balance**
  - refocused on movement and transitions
- **Falls**
  - introduced type of injury
- **Bowel & bladder**
  - no longer rate catheter as continent
  - improved toileting program item

## ***Other Sections with Important Changes***

- **Activities of daily living – single response scale**
- **Goals of care & return to community items added**
- **Oral/dental item improved**
- **Swallowing item - checklist of observable signs and symptoms**
- **Restraints – separate bed and chair**

## **Overall, Nurses Judged MDS 3.0 Clinical Utility & Clarity Improved**

- **85% rated MDS 3.0 as likely to help identify unrecognized problems**
- **81% rated MDS 3.0 as more relevant than 2.0**
- **84% reported that MDS 3.0 interview items improved their knowledge of the resident**
- **85% rated MDS 3.0 questions as more clearly worded**

## **Nurses also rated Validity High**

- **89% rated MDS 3.0 as providing a more accurate report of resident characteristics than MDS 2.0**
- **76% rated MDS 3.0 as better reflecting best clinical practice or standards**

## ***MDS 3.0 Took Less Time***



**MDS 3.0 Time** < **MDS 2.0 Time**

- **Average time:  
62 Min**

- **Average time:  
112 Min**

## ***Summary: MDS 3.0 Revisions are Based on***

- **Feedback from users**
- **Input from Experts**
- **Advances in assessment science**
  - **Improve clinical care in nursing home**
  - **Improve communication with providers**
  - **Improve ability to track care and patient progress across settings**
- **Testing of performance in NH populations**

## ***Summary: MDS 3.0 Revisions***

- **National testing showed increased resident voice and refined measures in MDS 3.0:**
  - **Increase measurement reliability**
  - **Increase measurement validity**
  - **Together these improve clinical detection and assessment accuracy**
- **Both Facility and Study Nurses from 71 NHs who used MDS 3.0 reported higher satisfaction due to:**
  - **Increased clinical relevance**
  - **Increased clarity**
  - **Increased knowledge about resident**
- **National testing showed reduced time to complete by 45%**



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## **The MDS 3.0**

## **Improving Assessment**

**Questions?**