

## GG0130A. Eating

**A. Eating:** The ability to use suitable utensils to bring food and/or liquid to the mouth and swallow food and/or liquid once the meal is placed before the patient.

### Assessment Timepoints

---

**SOC/ROC:**

- SOC/ROC performance.
- Discharge goal.

**Recertification:**

- Follow-up performance.

**Discharge:**

- Discharge performance.

### Eating Inclusions and Exclusions for Coding

---

**Included:**

- All food and liquids taken by mouth, including mechanically altered diets.
- Setup and cleanup of the meal, (not meal preparation).

**Excluded:**

- Assistance with or administration of tube feedings, parenteral nutrition, or total parenteral nutrition (TPN).

### Coding Tips

---

The activity of eating involves bringing food and liquids to the mouth using suitable utensils, and swallowing food and/or liquids once the meal is placed before the patient.

## Examples

Each row in the table below provides a clinical example for coding **GG0130A. Eating**. Statements 1 and 2 identify key elements that inform coding based on the patient's oral intake and need for tube feedings, parenteral nutrition, or TPN. The correct code is provided at the end of each example.

### Examples for GG0130A. Eating

	Statement 1	Statement 2	Code
Example 1	Patient eats and drinks by mouth.	Patient relies <b>partially</b> on tube feedings or TPN to obtain nutrition and liquids.	<b>Code Using 6-Point Coding Scale</b> , based on the type and amount of assistance required to eat and drink by mouth.
Example 2	Patient <b>does not</b> eat or drink by mouth at the time of the assessment.	Patient did not eat or drink by mouth <b>prior to the current</b> illness, injury, or exacerbation.	<b>Code 09</b> , Not applicable.
Example 3	Patient does not eat or drink and relies <b>solely</b> on nutrition and liquids through tube feedings or TPN.	Due to a new (recent-onset) medical condition.	<b>Code 88</b> , Not attempted due to medical condition or safety concerns.

## Clinical Considerations

- The eating activity may be completed with or without the use of adaptive eating utensils and assistive device(s).
- Consider any assistance needed for setup or cleanup provided either *prior to the eating activity* once the meal is placed before the patient, or after the patient finishes eating. If a helper opens cartons and containers after the meal is placed before the patient, and prior to the patient eating, and no assistance is required during the eating activity, then **GG0130A** would be coded **05, Setup or clean-up assistance**.
- If a clinician is not able to observe a patient eating at the time of the assessment, coding of **GG0130A** may be based on patient/caregiver report, collaboration with other agency staff, or assessment of similar activities.