

IRF and LTCH Virtual Training Program – Part 2

Section GG: Self-Care and Functional Mobility

Ellen Strunk and Megan Bernier
June 16, 2022



Objectives

- Demonstrate understanding by applying Section GG guidance to practice coding scenarios.
- Identify the key insights that help inform the coding of Section GG items.



GG0100. Prior Functioning

GG0100. Prior Functioning – Coding Instructions

- **Code 3, Independent**, if the patient completed all the activities by themselves with or without an assistive device, with no assistance from a helper.
- **Code 2, Needed Some Help**, if the patient needed partial assistance from another person to complete any activities.
- **Code 1, Dependent**, if the helper completed all the activities for the patient, or the assistance of two or more helpers was required for the patient to complete the activities.
- **Code 8, Unknown**, if the patient's ability prior to the current illness, exacerbation, or injury is unknown.



GG0100. Prior Functioning: Everyday Activities

– Practice Scenario 1

Indoor Mobility (Ambulation): The patient was admitted to an acute care hospital after experiencing a stroke. Prior to admission, they used a cane to walk from room to room. In the morning, the patient’s caregiver would provide steadying assistance to the patient when the patient walked from room to room because of joint stiffness and severe arthritis pain. Occasionally, the patient required steadying assistance during the day when walking from room to room.

GG0100. Prior Functioning: Everyday Activities. Indicate the patient's usual ability with everyday activities prior to the current illness, exacerbation, or injury.	
Coding: <ul style="list-style-type: none">3. Independent - Patient completed all the activities by themselves, with or without an assistive device, with no assistance from a helper.2. Needed Some Help - Patient needed partial assistance from another person to complete any activities.1. Dependent - A helper completed all the activities for the patient.8. Unknown9. Not Applicable	<div>↓ Enter Codes in Boxes</div> <div></div> <div>B. Indoor Mobility (Ambulation): Code the patient's need for assistance with walking from room to room (with or without a device such as cane, crutch, or walker) prior to the current illness, exacerbation, or injury.</div>






How would you code GG0100. Prior Functioning – Everyday Activities for this patient?

- A. Code 3. Independent.
- B. Code 2. Needed Some Help.
- C. Code 1. Dependent.
- D. Code 8. Unknown.



Q₁

How would you code GG0100. Prior Functioning –
Everyday Activities for this patient?

- A. Code 3. Independent.
-  **B. Code 2. Needed Some Help.**
- C. Code 1. Dependent.
- D. Code 8. Unknown.



Practice Scenario 1 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is **B. Code 2, Needed Some Help.**

Rationale: The patient needed some assistance (steadying assistance) from their caregiver to complete the activity of walking in the home immediately prior to the patient's stroke. The use of an assistive device does not impact the coding of GG0100. Prior Functioning.



Practice Coding

GG0130 Self-Care Items

GG0130A. Eating – Practice Scenario 2

In the following video vignette, let's assess a patient's admission performance for eating in order to accurately code GG0130A.




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.



How would you code GG0130A. Eating for this patient?

- A. Code 06. Independent.
- B. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
- C. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.

How would you code GG0130A. Eating for this patient?

- A. Code 06. Independent.
- B. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
-  C. **Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.**
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.



Practice Scenario 2 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.**

Rationale: The nurse assessed that the patient required supervision while eating due to their swallowing precautions. Beyond the supervision, no physical support or instruction was provided by the nurse to the patient to complete the eating activity.

GG0130B. Oral Hygiene – Practice Scenario 3

Before bedtime, the certified nursing assistant (CNA) provides water and toothpaste to the patient to clean their dentures. The patient cleans their upper denture plate. The patient then cleans half of their lower denture plate, but states they are tired and unable to finish cleaning the lower denture plate. The CNA finishes cleaning the lower denture plate and the patient inserts the dentures in their mouth.



B. Oral hygiene: The ability to use suitable items to clean teeth. Dentures (if applicable): The ability to insert and remove dentures into and from the mouth, and manage denture soaking and rinsing with use of equipment.



How would you code GG0130B. Oral Hygiene for this patient?

- A. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
- B. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- C. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.





How would you code GG0130B. Oral Hygiene for this patient?

- A. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
- B. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- C. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.



Practice Scenario 3 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is C, **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The helper provides less than half the effort to complete oral hygiene.

GG0130C. Toileting Hygiene – Practice Scenario 4

The patient is morbidly obese and has a diagnosis of debility. The patient requests the use of a bedpan when voiding or having bowel movements and requires two CNAs to pull the patient's pants and underwear down and to mobilize the patient onto and off the bedpan. The patient is unable to complete any of their perineal/perianal hygiene. Both CNAs help the patient pull up the patient's underwear and pants.



C. Toileting hygiene: The ability to maintain perineal hygiene, adjust clothes before and after voiding or having a bowel movement. If managing an ostomy, include wiping the opening but not managing equipment.



How would you code GG0130C. Toileting hygiene for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.





How would you code GG0130C. Toileting hygiene for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.**



Practice Scenario 4 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is D, **Code 01. Dependent.**

Rationale: The assistance of two CNAs was needed to complete the activity of toileting hygiene.

GG0130 Self Care – Key Insights

- For **GG0130A. Eating**, if a patient requires assistance (e.g., supervision or cueing) to swallow safely, code based on the type and amount of assistance required for feeding and safe swallowing.
- For **GG0130B. Oral hygiene**, if a patient uses dentures, base the coding on the assistance needed to clean the patient's denture plates.
- For **GG0130C. Toileting hygiene**, if a patient uses a bedpan and requires the assistance of two helpers to complete the toileting hygiene activity, code the data element **01. Dependent**.



Practice Coding

GG0170 Bed and Transfer Mobility Items

GG0170A. Roll Left and Right – Practice Scenario 5

The patient is obese and has a history of sleep apnea. They recently fell and sustained a left shoulder contusion with resulting pain. The patient reports being more comfortable in bed with their head slightly elevated to help ease the feeling of shortness of breath and refuses to have the head of the bed lie flat. An assessing clinician determines that this slightly elevated position could be considered a lying position for this patient.

A CNA assists the patient in rolling (with the head of the bed slightly elevated) onto their right side by instructing them to bend their left leg while rolling to their right side. The patient needs physical assistance from the CNA to initiate their rolling right because of the pain from their left arm injuries when grasping the right bedrail to assist in rolling. The patient returns to lying on their back without assistance and uses their right arm to grasp the left bedrail to slowly roll onto their left side and then return to lying on their back.

A. Roll left and right: The ability to roll from lying on back to left and right side, and return to lying on back on the bed.



How would you code GG0170A. Roll left and right for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 07. Patient refused.





How would you code GG0170A. Roll left and right for this patient?



- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 07. Patient refused.



Practice Scenario 5 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The CNA provides less than half the effort needed for the patient to complete the activity of rolling left and right. Based on the clinical judgment of the clinician, it was determined that the slightly elevated position could be considered a “lying” position for the patient.

GG0170C. Lying to Sitting on Side of Bed – Practice Scenario 6

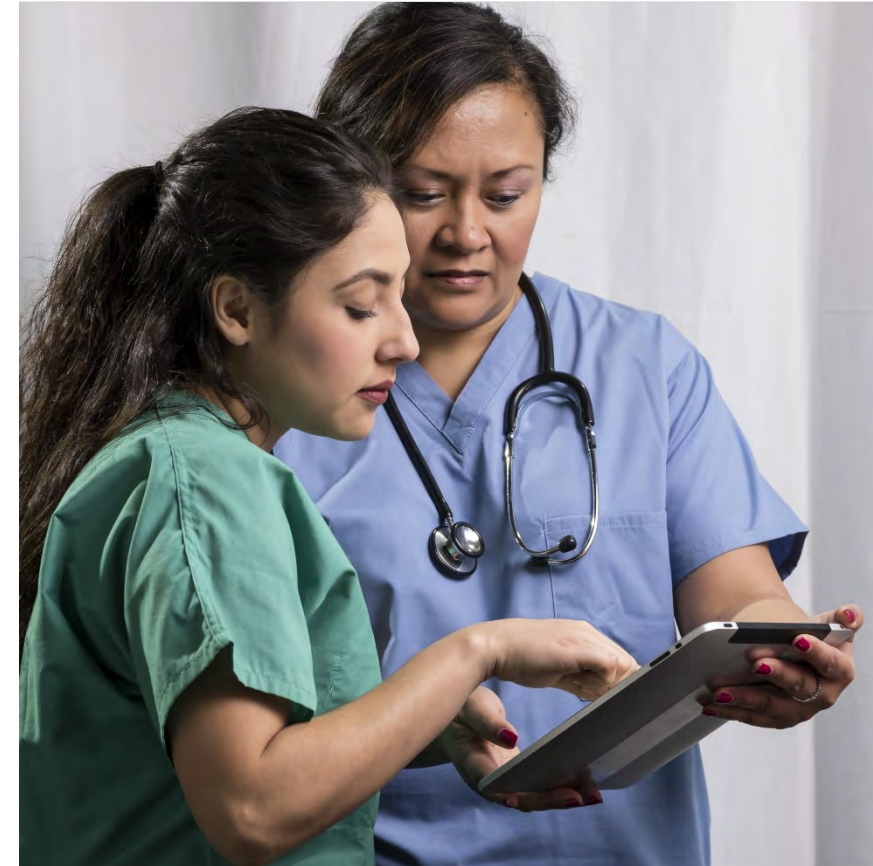
Here is a conversation between a nurse determining a patient's score for lying to sitting on side of bed and a CNA regarding the patient's bed mobility:

Nurse: *"Please describe how the patient moves themselves in bed. When they are in bed, how do they move from lying on their back to sitting up on the side of the bed?"*

CNA: *"They can sit up by themselves."*

Nurse: *"They sit up without any instructions or physical help?"*

CNA: *"No, I have to remind them to check on the position of their arm that has limited movement and sensation as they move in the bed, but once I remind them to check their arm, they can do it themselves."*





How would you code GG0170C. Lying to sitting on side of bed for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Independent.





How would you code GG0170C. Lying to sitting on side of bed for this patient?



- A. **Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.**
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Independent.



Practice Scenario 6 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is A, **Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.**

Rationale: In this example, the nurse inquired specifically about how the patient moves from a lying position to a sitting position. The nurse asked about instructions and physical assistance.

The CNA describes how they provide verbal instructions as the patient moved from a lying to sitting position. The nurse clarified their own understanding of the patient's performance of the activity by asking probing questions to the CNA about the patient, beginning with the general and proceeding to the more specific.

GG0170F. Toilet Transfer – Practice Scenario 7

Toilet transfer: A clinician attempts to assess a patient's toilet transfer ability, but the patient states they do not need to void or have a bowel movement and does not want to demonstrate the activity. The clinician speaks to a CNA who cared for the patient earlier that morning.

The CNA describes that when assisting the patient with a toilet transfer, the CNA provided steadying (touching) assistance as the patient lowered their underwear and then transferred onto the toilet. After voiding, the patient cleansed themselves. The CNA further explained how the patient stood up from the toilet as the CNA steadied them and how the patient pulled up their underwear as the CNA continued to provide steadying assistance to ensure the patient did not lose their balance.





How would you code GG0170F. Toilet transfer for this patient?

- A. Code 07. Patient Refused.
- B. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- C. Code 09. Not applicable.
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.





How would you code GG0170F. Toilet transfer for this patient?



- A. Code 07. Patient Refused.
- B. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.**
- C. Code 09. Not applicable.
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.



Practice Scenario 7 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **04. Supervision or touching assistance.**

Rationale: In this scenario, the CNA provided ample information to allow the clinician to code the patient's performance using the six-point scale. Use of an “activity not attempted” code should occur only after determining that the activity is not completed, and the performance code cannot be determined based on patient/caregiver report, collaboration with other facility staff, or assessment of similar activities.

The CNA reported that they provided steadying assistance as the patient transferred on and off the toilet. Assistance with managing clothing and cleansing is coded under item GG0130C, Toileting hygiene, and is not considered when coding GG0170F, Toilet transfer.

GG0170G. Car Transfer – Practice Scenario 8

The patient must leave for a same-day medical procedure. They use a wheelchair and ambulate for only short distances. The patient requires lifting assistance from a physical therapist (PT) to get from a seated position in the wheelchair to a standing position. The PT provides trunk support when the patient takes several steps to turn and transfer into the car. The patient lowers themselves into the car seat with steadying assistance from the therapist. The patient lifts their legs into the car with support from the PT.

Later, the PT reviews the medical record and determines that the demonstration of the patient's transfer into the car is adequate to code GG0170G.





How would you code GG0170G. Car transfer for this patient?

- A. Code 07. Patient Refused.
- B. Code 09. Not applicable.
- C. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.





How would you code GG0170G. Car transfer for this patient?

- A. Code 07. Patient Refused.
- B. Code 09. Not applicable.
- C. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.**



Practice Scenario 8 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is D, **Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.**

Rationale: The patient only performed a car transfer into the car. As the PT determined that this observation was adequate, they may code the activity based on the type and amount of assistance required to complete it. Although the patient also contributed effort to complete the activity, the PT contributed more than half the effort needed to transfer the patient into the car by providing lifting assistance and trunk support.

GG0170 Bed Mobility and Transfer Items – Key Insights

- For bed mobility items, a clinician can use clinical judgment to determine that the slightly elevated position would be considered a “lying” position for the patient.
- The toilet transfer activity can be assessed and coded regardless of the patient’s need to use a toilet or commode to void or have a bowel movement in conjunction with the toilet transfer assessment.
- Clinicians may use clinical judgment to determine if observing a patient performing a portion of the car transfer activity (e.g., getting into the car) allows the clinician to adequately assess the patient’s ability to complete the entire GG0170G. Car transfer activity (transferring in and out of a car).
 - If the clinician determines that this observation is adequate, code based on the type and amount of assistance required to complete the activity.



Practice Coding

GG0170 Walking Mobility Items

GG0170I. Walk 10 feet – Practice Scenario 9

The patient has recently been hospitalized for pneumonia and has Parkinson's disease. When ambulating, they use a walker with a PT assisting. Another helper pushes a wheelchair closely behind the patient in case they need to rest. The PT must advance the walker for the patient with each step. The PT assists the patient by physically initiating the stepping movement forward, advancing the patient's foot, during the activity of walking 10 feet. The patient fatigues and the helper assists the PT in transferring the patient into the wheelchair to rest before they complete the 10 feet of distance.

Upon review of the medical record and patient report, since admission to the facility, the patient has not been able to ambulate more than 6 feet of distance with the assistance of 2 helpers, needing a wheelchair to complete any longer distances. Prior to this recent illness, the patient was able to ambulate 60 feet with contact guard assistance and a walker.





How would you code GG0170I. Walk 10 feet for this patient?

- A. Code 09. Not applicable.
- B. Code 88. Not attempted due to medical condition or safety concerns.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.





How would you code GG0170I. Walk 10 feet for this patient?



- A. Code 09. Not applicable.
- B. Code 88. Not attempted due to medical condition or safety concerns.**
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.

Practice Scenario 9 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, 88. **Not attempted due to medical conditions or safety concern.**

Rationale: The patient did not complete ambulating the 10 feet of distance due to fatigue. Since the patient needed to sit and rest during this walking activity, you would consider the patient unable to complete the walking activity. Given that the patient was able to complete the activity prior to the current illness, this scenario would be coded **88. Not attempted due to medical conditions or safety concerns.**

GG0170L. Walk 10 Feet On Uneven Surfaces – Practice Scenario 10

In the following video vignette, let's assess a patient's performance for walking 10 feet on an uneven surface in order to accurately code GG0170L.







How would you code the patient's performance for GG0170L. Walking 10 feet on uneven surfaces?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.





How would you code the patient's performance for GG0170L. Walking 10 feet on uneven surfaces?



- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.



Practice Scenario 10 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The patient required the nurse to provide less than half of the effort in order to walk 10 feet on an uneven surface due to weakness.

GG0170 Walking Items – Key Insights

- A walking activity cannot be completed without some level of patient participation that allows patient ambulation to occur for the entire stated distance. A helper cannot complete a walking activity for a patient.
- During a walking activity, a patient may take a brief standing rest break. If the patient needs to sit to rest during a walking activity, consider the patient unable to complete that walking activity.



Practice Coding

GG0170 Stairs/Step and Picking up Object Items

GG0170N. 4 Steps – Practice Scenario 11

The patient has lower body weakness and uses a cane when going up and down steps. A PT provides steadying assistance when the patient ascends four steps. After climbing the four steps, the patient asks to rest and takes a brief sitting break before descending the four steps. While descending four steps, the PT provides trunk support (more than touching assistance) as the patient holds the stair railing and cane.




How would you code GG0170N. 4 steps for this patient?

- A. Code 09. Not applicable.
- B. Code 88. Not attempted due to medical condition or safety concerns.
- C. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.



How would you code GG0170N. 4 steps for this patient?

- A. Code 09. Not applicable.
- B. Code 88. Not attempted due to medical condition or safety concerns.
-  C. **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**
- D. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.

Practice Scenario 11 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is C, **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The PT provides touching assistance as the patient ascends four steps. The PT provides trunk support (more than touching assistance) when the patient descends the four steps. The patient may take a standing or seated rest break between ascending and descending the four steps.

GG0170P. Picking Up Object – Practice Scenario 12

In the following video vignette, let's assess the patient's performance for picking up an object in order to accurately code GG0170P.





How would you code patient's performance for GG0170P. Picking up object?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.



How would you code patient's performance for GG0170P. Picking up object?



- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.
- D. Code 01. Dependent.



Practice Scenario 12 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **Code 03, Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The patient required the nurse to provide less than half of the effort as the patient reached to pick up an object from the floor.

GG0170 Stair/Step and Picking Up Object Items – Key Insights

- For **GG0170N. 4 Steps** and **GG0170O.12 Steps**, if the assessment of going up the stairs and then down the stairs occurs sequentially, the patient may take a standing or *seated rest break* between ascending and descending the 4 steps or 12 steps.
- For **GG0170P. Picking up Object**, assistive device(s) and adaptive equipment may be used (e.g., a cane to support standing balance and/or a reacher to pick up the object).



Practice Coding

GG0170 Wheelchair/Scooter Items

Wheelchair Mobility Coding Exercise

Using the coding scenario that follows, we will code the five GG0170 Wheelchair/Scooter items listed below:

- GG0170Q1. Does the patient use a wheelchair and/or scooter?
- GG0170R. Wheel 50 feet with two turns.
- GG0170RR. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used.
- GG0170S. Wheel 150 feet.
- GG0170SS. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Q1. Does the patient use a wheelchair and/or scooter? 0. No → Skip to H0350, Bladder Continence 1. Yes → Continue to GG0170R, Wheel 50 feet with two turns
	R. Wheel 50 feet with two turns: Once seated in wheelchair/scooter, the ability to wheel at least 50 feet and make two turns.
<input type="checkbox"/>	RR1. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used. 1. Manual 2. Motorized
	S. Wheel 150 feet: Once seated in wheelchair/scooter, the ability to wheel at least 150 feet in a corridor or similar space.
<input type="checkbox"/>	SS1. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used. 1. Manual 2. Motorized

GG0170 Wheelchair Use – Practice Scenario 13

The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. They are able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet and do not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



Note: This scenario will be used to code the next 5 questions.

How would you code GG0170Q1. Does the patient use a wheelchair and/or scooter?

- A. Code 0. No.
- B. Code 1. Yes.

Wheelchair use: The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. The patient is able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet. The patient does not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



Q₁₃

How would you code GG0170Q1. Does the patient use a wheelchair and/or scooter?

- A. Code 0. No.
- B. **Code 1. Yes.**



GG0170Q1 – Rationale

Answer: The answer is B, **Code 1. Yes.**

Rationale: The patient uses both a motorized wheelchair for mobility and is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair. The intent of the wheelchair mobility items is to assess the ability of patients who are using a wheelchair *under any condition*.

How would you code GG0170R. Wheel 50 feet with two turns, for this patient?

- A. Code 06. Independent.
- B. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
- C. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.

Wheelchair use: The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. The patient is able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet. The patient does not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



How would you code GG0170R. Wheel 50 feet with two turns, for this patient?

- A. Code 06. Independent.
- B. Code 05. Setup or clean-up assistance.
- C. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- D. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**



GG0170R – Rationale

Answer: The answer is D, **Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.**

Rationale: The patient is independent with the use of the motorized wheelchair but requires some help with the two turns when using the manual wheelchair. As the patient's use of the manual wheelchair requires more assistance, you would code the patient's performance based on the use of the manual wheelchair.

The patient is able to propel themselves the 50 feet of distance; however, a helper is needed to provide verbal cueing and hand-over-hand assistance with propelling and coordinating the wheelchair when making turns. This would be considered partial/moderate assistance.

How would you code GG0170RR. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used for this patient?

- A. Code 1. Manual.
- B. Code 2. Motorized.

Wheelchair use: The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. The patient is able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet. The patient does not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



How would you code GG0170RR. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used for this patient?



- A. Code 1. Manual.
- B. Code 2. Motorized.



GG0170RR – Rationale

Answer: The answer is A, **Code 1. Manual.**

Rationale: The item GG0170RR identifies the type of wheelchair or scooter used to wheel 50 feet with two turns. The patient uses both a motorized and a manual wheelchair. They are independent with the use of the motorized wheelchair but require some help with the two turns when using the manual wheelchair. Since the patient's use of the manual wheelchair requires more assistance, you would code **1. Manual**, to indicate the type of wheelchair used.

How would you code GG0170S. Wheel 150 feet for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance
- D. Code 01. Dependent

Wheelchair use: The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. The patient is able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet. The patient does not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



How would you code GG0170S. Wheel 150 feet for this patient?

- A. Code 04. Supervision or touching assistance.
- B. Code 03. Partial/moderate assistance.
- C. Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.**
- D. Code 01. Dependent.



GG0170S – Rationale

Answer: The answer is C, **Code 02. Substantial/maximal assistance.**

Rationale: The patient is independent with the use of the motorized wheelchair but requires some help with the two turns when using the manual wheelchair. As the patient's use of the manual wheelchair requires more assistance, you would code the patient's performance based on the use of the manual wheelchair.

The patient can propel the manual wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The assistance required of the helper is more than half of the effort to complete the activity.

How would you code GG0170SS. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used for this patient?

- A. Code 1. Manual.
- B. Code 2. Motorized.

Wheelchair use: The patient is unable to ambulate prior to admission secondary to a spinal cord injury and utilizes a motorized wheelchair for mobility at baseline. The patient is able to navigate their motorized wheelchair to and from the therapy department for a distance of 150 feet. The patient does not require assistance or verbal cueing to complete this task.

Currently, the patient is trialing the use of a manual wheelchair during therapy sessions. The patient can propel the wheelchair only 60 feet in a straight line before they need the assistance of a helper to mobilize longer distances. The patient is able to complete two turns with the wheelchair; however, they require verbal cuing and hand-over-hand assistance to provide wheelchair propulsion and coordination as they make their two turns.



How would you code GG0170SS. Indicate the type of wheelchair or scooter used for this patient?



- A. Code 1. Manual.
- B. Code 2. Motorized.



GG0170SS – Rationale

Answer: The answer is A, **Code 1. Manual.**

Rationale: The item GG0170SS identifies the type of wheelchair or scooter used to wheel 150 feet. The patient uses both a motorized and a manual wheelchair. They are independent with the use of the motorized wheelchair but require assistance to complete the 150 feet of distance when using the manual wheelchair. As the patient's use of the manual wheelchair requires more assistance, you would code **1. Manual**, to indicate the type of wheelchair used.

GG0170 Wheelchair/Scooter Mobility Items – Key Insights

- Clinicians can use clinical judgment to determine how the actual patient assessment of wheelchair mobility is conducted. If a clinician chooses to combine the assessment of multiple wheelchair activities, they may use clinical judgment to determine the type and amount of assistance needed for each individual activity.
- If a patient uses both a manual and a motorized wheelchair or scooter at the time of the assessment, code the activity based on the type of wheelchair/scooter with which the patient requires the most assistance.



GG0130 and GG0170 – Key Insights

- A clinician can clarify their own understanding of the patient's performance of the activity by asking probing questions, beginning with general questions and proceeding to the more specific.
- Use of an “activity not attempted” code should occur only after determining that the activity is not completed, and the performance code cannot be determined based on patient/caregiver report, collaboration with other facility staff, or assessment of similar activities.
- Activities may be completed with or without an assistive device. This includes the use of any new or previously utilized assistive device(s) or equipment. Use of a device or equipment may result in the patient needing less assistance from a helper.

