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Patient-Centered Medical Home Annual Questionnaires By James L. Holly, MD Your Life Your Health The Examiner April 19, 2012

As part of SETMA's Patient-Centered Medical Home, we annually complete five questionnaires for each patient to assess the following:

- Fall Risk
- Pain Assessment
- Functional Assessment
- Wellness
- Stress

The standard is that each questionnaire should be completed on all patients at least once a year and more frequently if a change in conditions dictates. The Fall Risk should be completed on all patients over 50 and on younger patients who as a result of chronic condition are at risk of falling. Provider performance on these questionnaires is publicly reported below. The content of the questions are as follows.

Fall Risk Assessment

Falls represent one of the greatest dangers to the health of our elderly and particularly our frail elderly. The life expectancy of a person over 80 who breaks a hip from a fall has a fifty-percent, six months morality rate. At 30 days, the morality rate is 10%. The elements of the fall risk assessment are on the following template which is completed electronically.

Fall Risk Asses		
Last Updated/Reviewed 04/	05/2012	
Check this box if you are unable to complete this assess	sment to due medical or other reasons.	
. Level of Consciousness/Mental Status	2. History of Falls (In past 3 months)	
☐ Alert ☐ Disoriented	✓ No Falls 1-2 Falls	Return
Intermittent Confusion	3 or more Falls	Guidelines
. Ambulation/Elimination Status	4. Vision Status (With or without glasses)	
✓ Ambulatory/Continent	Adequate	
Chair Bound (Requires restraints and assist with elimination)	Poor	
Ambulatory/Incontinent	Legally Blind	
i. Gait/Balance Instructions	6. Systolic Blood Pressure (Between lying and stand	ng)
Gait/Balance Normal	No noted drop	
Balance problem while standing	✓ Drop LESS THAN 20 mm Hg	
▼ Balance Problem while walking	Drop MORE THAN 20 mm Hg	
Decreased muscular coordination		
Requires usage of assistive devices (i.e. cane, w/c, walker, furniture)	8. Predisposing Diseases Instructions	
Jerking or unstable when making turns	None present	
Change in gait pattern when walking through the doorway	✓ 1-2 present	
'. Medications Instructions	3 or more present	
NONE of thee medication tatken currently or within last 7 days	Total Score 9 Past Scores	
Takes 1-2 of these medictions currently and/or within last 7 days		
Takes 3-4 of these medicatons currently and/or within last 7 days	Total score above 10 indicates HIGH	J
Change in medication or dosage in last five days		

Once the **Fall Risk Assessment** is completed, the provider should, on the basis of the score, access the "Guidelines for Fall Precaution" and prepare a plan for preventing falls.

Guidelines for Fall	Precaution
Inpatient/Nursing Home	Outpatient
Perform and record Neuro vital signs every hours for 48 hours. Pharmacy Review CBC BMP Urinalysis EKG	Patient cautioned about increased risk of falls. Patient cautioned to gain their balance and stability before beginning to walk after standing up. Prescribed cane use. Prescribed four pronged cane use. Prescribed four legged walker. Recommend walking only with assistance.
Consult Physical Therapy Apply Lap Buddy when up in chair. Apply Pelvic Restraint when up in chair. Notify family of application of and rationale for restraint device. Implement Nursing Fall Precaution Protocol PRN. Consult Optometry	Prescribed wheelchair use. Referral to PT for evaulation for physical therapy. Referral to PT for evaluation for motorized wheelchair. Home Health evaluation for safety. Recommend commode and bathtub device for mobility.

The importance of this assessment along with the assessment of the bone density (the bone strength) of elderly patients is important in the prevention of fractures. Remember, the six months survival of patients over eighty years of age after a hip fracture is only 50%. Most cancers have a longer survival rate. The cause of this high mortality is not directly the fracture but the stress related to the fracture, its treatment and to other conditions.

The next questionnaire is a Global Assessment of Functioning. This tool is adapted from the **Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) Scale** -- American Psychiatric Association. (2000), *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (4th edition.

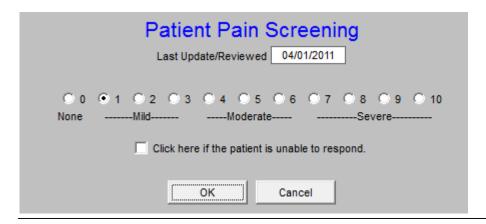
	Global Assessment of Functioning Last Updated/Reviewed 04/01/2011
€ 91 -100	Superior functioning in a wide rage of activities, life's problems never seem to get out of hand, is sought out by others because of his or her many qualities. No symptoms.
C 90 - 81	Absent or minimal symptoms, good functioning in all areas, interested and involved in a wide range or activities, socially effective, generally satisfied with life, no more than everyday
C 80 - 71	If symptoms are present they are transient and expectable reactions to psychosocial stresses; no more than slight impairment in social, occupational, or school functioning.
C 70 - 61	Some mild symptoms OR some difficulty in social, occupational, or school functioning, but generally functioning pretty well, has some meaningful interpersonal relationships.
O 60 - 51	Moderate symptoms OR any moderate difficulty in social, occupational, or school functioning.
C 50 - 41	Serious symptoms OR any serious impairment in social, occupational, or school functioning.
O 40 - 31	Some impairment in reality testing or communication OR major impairment in several areas, such as work or school, family relations, judgment, thinking, or mood.
C 30 - 21	Behavior is considered influenced by delusions or hallucinations OR serious impairment in communications or judgment OR inability to function in all areas.
C 20 - 11	Some danger or hurting self or others OR occasionally fails to maintain minimal personal hygiene OR gross impairment in communication.
C 10 - 1	Persistent danger of severely hurting self or others OR persistent inability to maintain minimum personal hygiene OR serious suicidal act with clear expectation of death.
	OK Cancel

This assessment is important in both the design of a plan of care and treatment plan and in the judgment of how engaged the patient can be in their own care. Also, it helps evaluate and document safety issues in regard to whether a patient can live alone and care for him/herself independently. This is particularly important in transitions of care from one setting to other, i.e., from the inpatient status to the ambulatory setting. If a patient has a low functioning status and lives alone, the are going to require a change of living circumstances to be safely cared for.

SETMA uses this questionnaire in conjunction with three others which are primarily involved in Hospice care but which have great value in functional assessment. They are: the Karnofsky Performance Scale for adults; the Lansky Performance Scale for Children under sixteen; the Functional Assessment Testing Alzheimer's And Other Related Conditions. These can be reviewed at www.jameslhollymd.com under Westernament Tools/Specialized Tools/Stratifying End-of-Life Risk for Hospice Services.

The third questionnaire is the Patient Pain Screening tool. This tool was developed by the National Institute of Health 2007, Pain Intensity Scale. This is a simple but valuable tool which allows you to assess the patient's perception of their level of discomfort. This assessment must

be balanced with the physical examination. If the patient states that their pain is 8-10 and they are sitting quietly with normal pulse, no sweating, elevated heart rate, elevated blood pressure, clammy, cold skin or other physical evidence of pain, the possibility of an exaggeration of pain exists.



The fourth scare is the Stress Assessment. This assessment was published in the University of California, Berkley *Wellness Letter*, and August 1995. The Scale Developers were: Lyle Miller and Alma Dell Smith of Boston University Medical Center.

	Stress Asses	sment		
	Last Updated/Reviewed	06/16/2011		Deture 1
Check here	if the patient is unable to co	mplete the assessment	today.	Return
Calculate Results >>> Total Po	ints Assessme	ent		
i eat at least one hot, balanced meal a day.		○ Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I get seven to eight hours of sleep at least four ni	ghts a week.	C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I give and receive affection regularly.		○ Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I have at least one relative within 50 miles on who	om I can rely.	C None Nearby	C A Few Nearby	C Several Nearby
I exercise to the point of perspiration at least twice	e a week.	C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I smoke fewer than 10 cigarettes a day.		C Never	C Sometimes	• Always
I have fewer than 5 alcoholic drinks a week.		C Never	C Sometimes	• Always
My weight is appropriate for my height.		Obese	C Overweight	Healthy Weight
I have an income adequate to meet basic expense	es.	C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I get strength from my religious beliefs.		C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I regularly attend club or social activities.		C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I have a network of friends and acquaintances.		No Friends	C Some Friends	C Several Friends
I have one or more friends to confide in about pe	rsonal matters.	C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I consider myself to be in good health.		C Poor Health	C Average Health	Good Health
I am able to speak openly about my feelings whe	n angry or worried.	C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I have regular conversations with the people I live domestic problems like chores and money.	e with about	○ Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I do something fun at least once a week.		C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I am able to organize my time efficiently.		C Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I drink fewer than 3 cups of coffee (or other caf	feinated drinks) a day.	○ Never	C Sometimes	C Always
I take some quiet time for myself during the day.		C Never	C Sometimes	C Always

The Stress Assessment based on the Score

>=80 points You have an excellent resistance to stress.

>=60 points You may be somewhat vulnerable to stress.

You may be seriously vulnerable to stress.

<60 points

The importance of this score is both its results and its content. The elements of the assessment alert a healthcare provider and a patient to the things which cause stress and points to means of stress reduction. Stress is destructive to the human body. Stress increases blood pressure and pulse both of which contribute to heart disease. Stress increases certain chemicals in the body all of which in excess amounts are harmful to health. It is often possible to improve the control of diabetes without more medications by the reduction or elimination of stress. And, it is important that the best stress reduction does not come from a pill but from life-style modification and the elimination of stressors in one's life.

The fifth questionnaire is a Wellness Assessment. This was produced by the University of Wisconsin, Health Promotion and Human Development Department through the work of Anne Abbott, Jane

P. Jones and John Munson. Like the Stress Assessment, the Wellness Assessment has value from its result and from its content. It is far more important for a physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant or other healthcare provider to promote wellness than to treat disease. Remember, the best way to treat diabetes is still "don't get it."

The following is the Wellness Assessment. This assessment focuses on activity, diet, rest, alcohol consumption, coping skills, etc.

Wellness Assessment		
Last Updated/Reviewed 06/15/2011		
Check here if the patient is unable to complete the assessment today.		
Calculate Results >>> Total Points 9		
Assessment Fair		
How many days a week do you participate in at least 30 minutes of physical activity? ○ None 1 to 3 days per week 3 to 4 days per week 5+ days per week		
How many days a week do you participate in activities that increase your strength? None 1 day per week 2 days per week 3+ days per week		
How many days a week do you participate in activities that increase your flexibility? None 1 day per week 2 days per week 3+ days per week		
Indicate the type of grain products you usually eat. C Only or mostly refined (white) grain products A mix of refined and whole grain products Only or mostly whole grain products		
How many servings of vegetables and fruit do you eat each day? One serving is equal to one medium or 1/2 cup vegetable or fruit, 1 cup salad, 1/2 cup juice or 1/4 cup dried fruit. O None 1 to 2 servings 5 + servings		
How many servings of milk products do you eat daily? One serving is equal to 1 cup milk, 3/4 cup yogurt or 2 ounces cheese. None 1 serving 2 servings 3+ servings		
How ofen do you eat breakfast (more than just coffee or a roll)? • Never or rarely		
What is your smoking status? • Currently smoke		
How often do you feel you get the sleep you need? Never Most nights Every night		
How well are you coping with your current stress load? © Difficult to cope most days Coping fairly well Coping very well		
How many alcoholic drinks do you usually have each week? One drink is equal to 12 ounces beer, 5 ounces wine or 1.5 ounces liquor. • None • 1 to 8 drinks • 9 to 13 drinks • 14+ drinks		
Have you been told by your doctor that you have? Good blood pressure High blood pressure		
Have you been told by your doctor that you have? Good cholesterol High cholesterol		
Please enter your weight and height below to see if you are a healty weight. 200 pounds 72.00 inches 27.12 BMI		
Please enter your waist circumference. 34.50 inches		

Wellness Assessment results based on the Score

< 5 points Poor

5-9 points Fair

10-19 points Good

20-29 points Very good

>=30 points Excellent

Healthcare is more complex than it once was. Increasingly we have a need for and we have the availability of quantifiable assessments of foundational elements of health and of healthcare.