

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

Admission:

- Admission performance.
- Discharge goal.

Discharge:

- Discharge performance.

Eating Inclusions and Exclusions for Coding

Included:

- All food and liquids.
- All diets taken by mouth, including mechanically altered.
- Setup and cleanup of the meal.

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 partially on tube feedings or TPN to obtain nutrition and liquids.	Code Using 6-Point Coding Scale , based on the type and amount of assistance required to eat and drink by mouth.
Example 2	Patient does not eat or drink by mouth at the time of the assessment.	Patient did not eat or drink by mouth prior to the current illness, injury, or exacerbation.	Code 09 , Not applicable.
Example 3	Patient does not eat or drink and relies solely on nutrition and liquids through tube feedings or TPN.	Due to a new (recent-onset) medical condition.	Code 88 , 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).
- Code **05, Setup or clean-up assistance**, if the helper assists only *prior to or following* the eating activity but not during the activity. For example, the patient requires assistance cutting up food or opening containers.
- If a modified consistency meal is placed before the patient and the patient can bring the food to their mouth using suitable utensils and swallows the food and/or liquid safely, code **06, Independent**.
- If the patient was not able to complete the activity prior to the benefit of services, use patient/caregiver report, collaboration with other hospital staff, or assessment of similar activities to determine the appropriate performance code.