

## Home Health Line Tool

## Quick guide to understanding toileting hygiene items

Similarities prevail when assessing for M1845 and GG0130C. The ability to perform the item's tasks safely and effectively is the key to both.

See chart below to understand what is assessed for each item:

**Scoring:****M1845 (Toileting Hygiene)**

Current ability to maintain perineal hygiene safely, adjust clothes and/or incontinence pads before and after using toilet, commode, bedpan, urinal. If managing ostomy, includes cleaning area around stoma, but not managing equipment.

0. Able to manage toileting hygiene and clothing management without assistance.

1. Able to manage toileting hygiene and clothing management without assistance if supplies/implements are laid out for the patient.

2. Someone must help the patient to maintain toileting hygiene and/or adjust clothing.

3. Patient depends entirely upon another person to maintain toileting hygiene.

**GG0130C (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.

06 — Independent

05 — Setup or Clean-up Assistance

04 — Supervision or Touching Assistance

03 — Partial/Moderate Assistance

02 — Substantial/Maximal Assistance

01 — Dependent

M1845	GG0130C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain perineal hygiene <b>safely</b></li> <li>Adjust clothes</li> <li>Pulling clothes up or down</li> <li>Adjust incontinence products</li> <li>Cleaning around a stoma (not equipment management)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain personal hygiene</li> <li>Adjust clothing that is relevant to the patient before or after voiding or bowel movement</li> <li>Include assistance needed with hygiene and clothing after an incontinence episode</li> <li>Wiping an ostomy (not equipment management)</li> </ul>
<p><b>M1845</b> specifically references hygiene and clothing adjustment.</p> <p>The majority of tasks rule does not apply. For example, if the patient cannot pull up their pants, they need help (2) or are dependent (3) – as this is more than set up.</p>	<p>Answer <b>GG0130C</b> based on the activity needing the <b>most</b> hygiene assistance after voiding vs. after bowel movement, when patients require differing levels of assistance for these tasks.</p>

**Consider this scenario for accurately responding to M1845 and GG0130C**

**Scenario:** A patient is admitted to home health with diabetic neuropathy and orthostatic hypotension, both contributing to poor proprioception and lower extremity weakness. She requires assistance from one person with a gait belt and walker to safely navigate across flooring transitions to the bathroom. Due to impaired balance, she needs physical assistance to pull down her pants and transfer onto the toilet. Once standing, she is able to wipe herself while holding onto her walker, but only if another person supports her upper body to maintain balance. A second helper is then needed to assist with pulling up her underwear and pants after toileting.

**How would you score M1845 and GG0130C?**

- M1845 (Toileting Hygiene):** “Code 2 — Someone must help the patient to maintain toileting hygiene and/or adjust clothing”
- GG0130C (Toilet Hygiene):** “Code 1— Dependent”

**Rationale:**

- Getting to the toilet is excluded from both M1845 and GG0130C. Although the patient requires assistance to ambulate, this does not factor into scoring either item.
- Assistive devices do not impact scoring for either item. The use of a walker or gait belt is considered part of the patient's usual setup and does not reduce the level of human assistance required.
- The patient contributes some effort by wiping herself while standing, but she requires two people to complete the toileting hygiene task: one to support her upper body for safety and balance, and another to assist with clothing adjustment. Because more than one helper is required, GG0130C must be scored as “01 – Dependent,” regardless of the patient's effort.

**Editor's note:** The above chart was provided by Jennifer Cullen, quality resource and utilization review manager with St. Luke's Home Health based in Bethlehem, Pa., and the scenario was provided by Susan Jirsa, divisional director of quality assurance with Aveanna Healthcare based in Atlanta, Ga. See related story, p. 5.