

- AOP.05.04** All equipment used to conduct radiology and diagnostic imaging studies is regularly inspected, maintained, and calibrated, and appropriate records are maintained for these activities.
- AOP.05.05** The hospital has implemented quality control procedures for radiology and diagnostic imaging services.
- AOP.05.06** The hospital ensures the quality of services provided by all outside contracted sources of radiology and diagnostic imaging services.

Nuclear Medicine Services

- AOP.06.00** When applicable, the hospital establishes and implements a nuclear medicine safety program that complies with applicable professional standards, laws, and regulations.

Standards, Intents, and Measurable Elements

Patient Assessment

Standard AOP.01.00

All patients have their health care needs identified through an assessment process that has been defined by the hospital.

Intent of AOP.01.00

The effective assessment process drives decisions about the patient's needs for care, treatment, and services. Because decisions are made based on assessments, the assessment process is dynamic and ongoing throughout the patient care continuum.

Patient assessments determine care needs, even when the patient's condition changes. Patient assessment includes three primary processes:

- Collecting information and data on the patient's health history and their physical, psychological, and social needs
- Analyzing the assessment data, including any diagnostic tests, to identify the patient's health care needs
- Using the information to develop a plan of care specific to the patient's needs

When a patient is admitted to or registered for care, whether inpatient or outpatient care/treatment, a complete assessment needs to be performed related to the reason for care. The information required depends on the patient's needs and the setting in which care is being provided (for example, inpatient or outpatient care). Hospital policies define the minimum content of assessments for clinical staff to include in their assessments and in all care settings. The hospital identifies any specific assessment data that must be included by various clinical staff.

Assessments are performed by each discipline within its scope of practice, licensure, applicable laws and regulations, or certification. Only qualified individuals conduct the assessments.

All the content from assessments must be available when treatment is initiated.

Measurable Elements of AOP.01.00

1. Ⓛ Hospital policy defines, in writing, the minimum content of assessments for inpatients for each clinical discipline that performs assessments. (*See also* AOP.01.01, ME 2)
2. Ⓛ Hospital policy defines, in writing, the minimum content of assessments for outpatients for each clinical discipline that performs assessments. (*See also* AOP.01.01, ME 2)
3. Only qualified individuals permitted by licensure, applicable laws and regulations, or certification perform the assessments. (*See also* AOP.01.01, ME 3)
4. The hospital identifies the information to be documented for the assessments.

Standard AOP.01.01

Each patient's initial assessment includes a health history and an evaluation of the patient's physical, psychological, spiritual/cultural, social, and economic needs.

Intent of AOP.01.01

The initial patient assessment is critical to identifying patient needs and planning the patient's care.

A complete assessment is performed related to the chief complaint at the time of admission or registration. Hospital policies define what information is needed at the time of admission or registration, who is responsible for obtaining and documenting this information, and how this information is documented.

The initial assessment provides information to do the following:

- Understand the care the patient is seeking.
- Select the best care setting for the patient.
- Form an initial diagnosis.
- Understand the patient's response to any previous care.

Hospital policy outlines what assessments and history are required as part of the initial assessment.

Common elements of an initial assessment include the following:

- Physical evaluation
- Health history
- Medication history and allergies
- Psychological assessment
- Social and economic assessment
- Cultural and spiritual assessment

The psychological assessment determines the patient's perception, thought processes, and emotional status. The social and economic assessment is not intended to "classify" the patient; it is used to identify possible barriers to access and paying for care.

A patient's social, cultural, spiritual, family, and economic factors can influence their response to illness and treatment. Families can be very helpful in these areas of assessment and in understanding the patient's wishes and preferences.

Hospital policy also states the following:

- What parts of the initial assessment each discipline is responsible for completing
- The minimum content for the initial medical assessment
- The minimum content for the initial nursing assessment
- The minimum content for other assessments (for example, physical therapy, speech therapy)
- The time frame for completion of the initial assessment
- The documentation requirements for the initial assessment