# The Advantages of the Universal Record

## From a Nurse’s Point of View

P. Quinlan, RN, PhD/March 30, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tab</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Potential Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Emergency Transfer Request Form    | • Instant documentation of MD/NP notification  
• Medical person has instant screen of patient/resident status  
• Reply from MD can serve as a Telephonic Order for patient/resident disposition                                                                 | Convention approach can take up to 45 - 60 minutes. This offers a potential caregiver time savings of 33%                                               |
| Master Patient Code Indexes        | • Complete history of billing codes which can be filtered in Pass Medical History (greater than 30 days old) Active Medical History (within the last 30 days)                                                                 | Facilitates the accurate data entry into Section I of the MDS 3.0  
Can also serve to validate information that went into driving the DRG/RUG Category assigned to a patient/resident |
| Last Record Accessed               | • Provides a record of anyone who had a touch point with the patient/resident in and out of the Facility. This streamlines accessing various caregivers when necessary to discuss care rendered.  
• Also documents when caregivers were actively involved in patient/resident care.                                                                 | Enhances the ability of the Facility/care provider in knowing the residents PMH and therefore maintaining ensuring continuity of care |
| Advanced Medical Directives        | • Provides accurate information on AD  
• Reduces the needs to copy and send copies of existing records with the patient/resident                                                                                                               | Caregiver time/copying expenses                                                                                                                      |
| Healthcare Providers              | • Provides a record of anyone who had a touch point with the patient/resident in and out of the Facility.  
• Can enhance communication between Facility MD and community MD/Specialist caregiver.  
• Potentially reduces the need for additional Specialty Consults  
• Enhances continuity of care and limits costly replication of services                                                                                                                    | Nursing care hours not utilized in facilitating the making of consult/clinic appointments, transferring the patient/resident, perhaps arranging for an escort and settling the patient/resident upon return  
Potentially saving the cost of transportation                                                                                                                                         |
| Healthcare Facilities             | • Provides a record of anyone who had a touch point with the patient/resident in and out of the Facility.                                                                                                  | Caregiver time                                                                                                                                           |
| Patient Demographics              | • Enhances the ability to populate Section A of MDS 3.0                                                                                                                                                      | Caregiver time                                                                                                                                           |
| Emergency Information             | Enhances notification of next of kin/designated representative.                                                                                                                                             | Increase customer services and build trust  
Enhances the probability of a positive family interview during any QIS Survey                                                                                                             |
| Remarkable Disciplines | Provides a record of anyone who had a touch point with the patient/resident in and out of the Facility. | Enhances the ability to capture a more complete resident assessment on CMS assessment tools (MDS OASIS, etc.) driving improved CMI scores  
Reduces caregiver time focused on paper work  
Potentially reduces replication of diagnostic studies and the caregiver time used in arranging for those studies  
Increases the ability of Case Managers to follow patient/resident compliance with follow-up PMD visits and compliance with medication administration |