This chapter provides item-by-item coding instructions for all required sections and items in the comprehensive MDS Version 3.0 item sets. The goal of this chapter is to facilitate the accurate coding of the MDS resident assessment and to provide assessors with the rationale and resources to optimize resident care and outcomes.

- Use a numeric response (a number or pre-assigned value) for blank boxes (e.g., D0350, Safety Notification M1030, Number of Venous and Arterial Ulcers).