

# PDPM: What Assessments are used for Case Mix?

UPDATED 07/01/2025

## PDPM Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #1a

### What is Case Mix?

Minnesota Case Mix uses the Nursing Component of the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) to classify residents into distinct groups, based on the resident's condition and the care the resident received at the time of the assessment. A value is assigned to each group, which is then used to calculate the daily rate of payment.

### Definitions

The Comprehensive Assessments are the Admission assessment, Significant Change in Status assessment, Significant Correction of Prior Comprehensive assessment, and the Annual assessment.

**NOTE:** A Significant Change in Status assessment is required when a resident experiences a significant change in their care needs. A Significant Change in Status assessment is also required when a resident enrolls or revokes hospice services after the Admission assessment is completed.

The Non-Comprehensive assessments are the Quarterly assessment and the Significant Correction of Prior Quarterly assessment.

Assessment Reference Date (ARD) – The specific end point for look-back periods in the MDS assessment process.

### When are Assessments Completed?

A facility must submit an Admission assessment for all residents.

A facility may elect to accept a short stay rate (DDF) for all residents who stay 14 days or less in lieu of submitting an admission assessment. Facilities that elect to accept the short stay rate are not required to complete an Admission assessment for residents who stay 14 consecutive days or less.

After completion of the Admission assessment, Nursing Facilities are required to complete a comprehensive or a non-comprehensive assessment for each resident every 92 days.

A facility is also required to submit a Significant Change in Status assessment with an ARD set on day 15 after isolation services end if isolation was coded on the previous assessment.

### Payment Effective Dates for Minnesota Case Mix Classifications

- The payment effective date of the Admission assessment is based on the facility's annual election.

## WHAT ASSESSMENTS ARE USED FOR CASE MIX?

- For Nursing Facilities which elect to complete an Admission assessment for all residents regardless of length of stay or payment source, the payment effective date is the date of admission to the facility.
  - For Nursing Facilities which elect the short stay rate (DDF), and the resident's stay is longer than 14 consecutive days from the original date of admission, the classification determined by the Admission assessment will be effective on the day of admission.
  - For Nursing Facilities which elect the short stay rate (DDF), and the resident's stay is less than 14 consecutive days from the original date of admission, the effective date of the short stay rate (DDF) is the date of admission.
  - For Nursing Facilities which elect the short stay rate (DDF), **and**
    - the resident's stay is less than 14 consecutive days from the original date of admission, **and**
    - the resident was discharged return anticipated, **and**
    - the resident returned to the facility within 30 days of their discharge date,The payment effective date of the short stay rate (DDF) is the date of admission. A resident may have several entries and discharges from the facility. If the resident is readmitted to the facility and stays 14 consecutive days or longer from their readmission date, the classification is determined by the Admission assessment and the payment effective date is the date of readmission.
- The payment effective date of the Quarterly assessment is the first day of the month following the Assessment Reference Date.
  - The payment effective date of the Annual assessment is the first day of the month following the Assessment Reference Date.
  - The payment effective date of the Significant Change in Status assessment is the Assessment Reference Date.
  - The payment effective date of the Significant Correction of Prior Comprehensive assessment is the Assessment Reference Date.
  - The payment effective date of the Significant Correction of Prior Quarterly assessment is the Assessment Reference Date.

Minnesota Department of Health  
Case Mix Review  
PO Box 64938 St. Paul, MN 55164-0938  
P: 651-201-4200  
Email: [health.fpc-cmr@state.mn.us](mailto:health.fpc-cmr@state.mn.us)  
[www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/casemix/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/casemix/index.html)