

# PDPM: What is Special Care High? (HDE2, HDE1, HBC2, HBC1)

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## PDPM Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #7

### 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.

The Special Care High category includes residents who received assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bed mobility, transferring from one surface to another, and toileting. In addition, residents classified in the Special Care High group received special services meeting at least one of the following criteria:

- Was comatose and completely ADL dependent or the ADL did not occur.
- Had septicemia.
- Had diabetes and received insulin injections for all seven days and had insulin order changes on two or more days.
- Had quadriplegia and a Nursing Function Score of 11 or less.
- Had asthma or COPD AND shortness of breath while lying flat.
- Had a fever with one or more of the following:
  - Pneumonia
  - Vomiting
  - Weight loss
  - Feeding tube and/or IV that provided needed nutrition and/or hydration.
- Parenteral/IV feedings
- Respiratory therapy for all seven days

**Note:** If a resident qualified for Special Care High but received little ADL assistance (A Nursing Function Score of 15-16 – see “What is a Nursing Function Score?” fact sheet), they are classified as clinically complex.

## WHAT IS SPECIAL CARE HIGH?

The four classifications in the Special Care High group are further broken down based on the Nursing Function Score and presence of depression symptoms. The number two (2) at the end of the classification (HDE2 and HBC2) indicates signs of depression were present. See the “Signs of Depression” and “What is a Nursing Function Score?” fact sheets.

If you believe an assessment is inaccurate for the observation period covered by that assessment, you may submit a request for reconsideration. (See separate fact sheet for “Requesting a Reconsideration.”)

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