

# RUG-IV: What is Case Mix?

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## RUG-IV Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #1

### What is Case Mix?

Minnesota Case Mix is a system that classifies residents into distinct groups, called Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs), 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.

Residents are assigned to classifications based on an assessment completed by the nursing facility staff using the Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI). The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) specifies how the RAI must be coded and what time periods are used to gather the data. This tool records what care was provided for a resident at a distinct point in time. These assessments are completed approximately every three months.

Residents or their representatives will receive a classification notice from the nursing facility each time an assessment used for case mix is completed. For information on what is included in each RUG group, see the fact sheet for that RUG group. The daily rate for an individual resident may change at the time of an assessment.

### What is assessed?

A variety of things are assessed that affect the RUG category. These include:

- The resident's ability to perform activities of daily living, such as eating, transferring, toileting, and bed mobility
- Active diagnoses
- Medical treatments
- Physical conditions
- Behavior
- Memory and thinking ability
- Signs of depression

## WHAT IS CASE MIX?

Please see the fact sheet for each RUG category for specific information. It is important to remember that case mix classifications reflect the resident's status based on an assessment at a distinct point in time.

If you believe the assessment is inaccurate for the period of time covered by that assessment, you may submit a request for reconsideration. (See fact sheet #4 "Requesting a Reconsideration.")

Minnesota Department of Health

Case Mix Review

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