

RUG-IV: Case Mix Questions and Answers

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RUG-IV Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #3

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.

Q: How do I know how much I have to pay for nursing home care?

A: Each resident or the resident's representative receives a notice of the case mix classification. The actual cost of that classification is available from the facility.

Q: Do I have to do anything when I receive my case mix classification notice?

A: If you have no questions about your classification, you do not have to do anything. If you have questions about your classification, ask nursing home staff to explain it to you.

Q: What if I disagree with my classification?

A: You have the right to request a reconsideration of your case mix classification **within 30 calendar days** of receiving your case mix classification notification. If you request, nursing facility staff may assist you with this process. The office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care (number below) is an advocacy agency for persons receiving long-term care services and is separate from the Minnesota Department of Health and the nursing home. (See "Requesting a Reconsideration" fact sheet.)

Q: Do all nursing facilities have the same rates?

A: No. While all nursing facilities in the Medicaid program use the same case mix system, the rates associated with each case mix category are unique to each facility. The rates are determined under statute, and take into account historic rates, costs of operation, and legislated rate adjustments. Questions about rates may be directed to the Long-Term Care Policy Center at the Minnesota Department of Human Services at 651-431-2282.

Q: How can I get more information about Minnesota Case Mix?

- Contact staff at the nursing home.
- Contact Case Mix Review staff at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Note: Contact information for the Minnesota Department of Health Case Mix Review Program will be provided at the end of this fact sheet.

- Contact the Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care At: 651-431-2555 or toll free at 1-800-657-3591.

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www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/casemix/index.html

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4200.