Requesting a Reconsideration

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 was receiving at the time of the assessment. These groups determine the daily rate the facility charges for the resident’s care. A value is assigned to each classification, which is then used to calculate the daily rate of payment.

How do you file a Request for Reconsideration of Resident Case Mix Classification?

In writing, ask the nursing facility for the following:
- A copy of the “Request for Reconsideration” form.
- A copy of the Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment used for the case mix classification.
- Any written documentation from the resident’s medical record that was used to complete the MDS.

Note: Nursing facility staff are required to provide you with this information within three working days of a written request. If nursing facility staff do not provide the information within three working days of a written request, contact the Minnesota Department of Health.

Complete the Request for Reconsideration form and, within 30 days of receipt of the notice, mail the above information to the Minnesota Department of Health (see left column).

Note: Please read the fact sheet for the classification that has been assigned to the resident. Note the date of the assessment on the classification notice. Assessments are for a specific point in time. Your request for reconsideration must be based on the resident’s status at the time the assessment was completed. The reconsideration process verifies the case mix classification for that point in time. It is not intended to take into account any changes that have occurred in the resident’s condition and care needs since the assessment was completed. The reconsideration process is intended to correct the case mix classification when the MDS assessment was coded incorrectly, resulting in an incorrect case mix classification.

An example of a request that would result in no change:
- The resident received IV antibiotics during the first week of admission to the facility. The request states the resident is no longer receiving IV medications. The reconsideration validates the resident received the IV medications at the time of the assessment, so the case mix classification remains the same.