

RUG-IV: What is Special Care High? (HB1, HB2, HC1, HC2, HD1, HD2, HE1, & HE2)

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RUG-IV Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #7

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.

The **Special Care High** resource utilization group (RUG) 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 an ADL score of five or more.
- 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 (ADL score of 1 or less – see “What is an ADL Score?” fact sheet), they are classified as clinically complex.

WHAT IS SPECIAL CARE HIGH?

There are four basic levels of Special Care High depending on the amount of ADL assistance received by the resident. In addition, each of these four groups is further broken down based on whether or not the resident had signs of depression. The number two (2) at the end of the classification (HB2, HC2, etc.) indicates signs of depression were present. See “Signs of Depression” and “What is an ADL Score?” fact sheets.

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

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