

# RUG-IV: What is Special Care Low? (LB1, LB2, LC1, LC2, LD1, LD2, LE1 & LE2)

UPDATED 05/04/2021

## RUG-IV Case Mix Review Fact Sheet #8

### 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 Low** resource utilization group (RUG) includes residents who received assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bed mobility, eating, transferring from one surface to another, and toileting. In addition, residents classified in the **Special Care Low** group meet at least one of the following **criteria at the time of the assessment**:

- An ADL score of five or more and any of the following diagnoses:
  - Cerebral palsy
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Parkinson's disease
- Respiratory failure and oxygen therapy while a resident
- Feeding tube or IV that provided needed nutrition and/or hydration
- Any one of the following skin conditions when accompanied by two or more skin treatments:
  - Two or more stage 2 pressure ulcers
  - Any stage 3, 4, or unstageable (due to slough and/or eschar) pressure ulcer
  - Two or more venous/arterial ulcers
  - One stage 2 pressure ulcer and one venous/arterial ulcer
- Foot infection, diabetic foot ulcer, or other open lesion of the foot with application of dressing to the feet
- Radiation treatment while a resident
- Dialysis treatment while a resident

## WHAT IS SPECIAL CARE LOW?

There are four basic levels of Special Care Low 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 (LB2, LC2, 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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