

RUG-III Grouping Methodology



What is RUG-III?

Resource Utilization Group, version III (RUG-III) is a grouping methodology used to categorize Continuing Care Reporting System (CCRS) data into groups based on the clinical and estimated resource utilization similarities of the individuals assessed.

What is CMI?

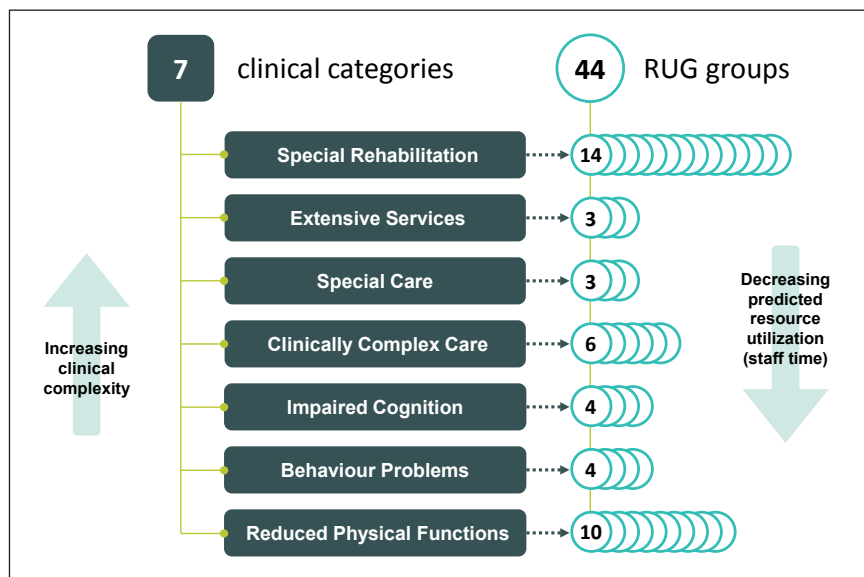
Case Mix Index (CMI) is a relative measure of estimated resource use. Each RUG-III group is associated with a CMI value that provides an indication of the average daily resource use for individuals assigned to a particular group.

Benefits

RUG-III groups and CMI values can be used to better understand the characteristics and needs of resident populations. These tools provide facility and system managers with research-based evidence for planning, quality improvement and resource allocation.

Structure

- There are 7 RUG-III categories.
- Each category has between 3 and 14 RUG-III groups.
- Categories are ordered in a **clinical hierarchy** from most to least resource intensive (i.e., Special Rehabilitation is the most resource-intensive category).

Figure Resource Utilization Group III (RUG-III)

The 4-step method to assign RUGs

Step 1: Clinical and administrative information is used to calculate indicators of resource use or clinical characteristics.

Step 2: The indicators and other information from the assessment are used to identify qualifying RUG-III categories.

Step 3: Within the broader RUG-III categories, specific groups are identified that qualify for that assessment. More than 1 group can qualify for any given assessment.

Step 4: The final RUG-III group is assigned from the pool of qualifying groups based on either the hierarchical or the index-maximizing approach.

The **hierarchical** approach assigns the qualifying group with the highest rank in the hierarchy to any given assessment.

The **index-maximizing** approach assigns the qualifying group with the highest associated CMI value to any given assessment.

Additional resources

CIHI's Case Mix web page: www.cihi.ca/casemix

CIHI's Learning Centre: learning.cihi.ca



Talk to us

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