



Comparing the RUG-III and RUG-III Plus grouping methodologies

Overall differences

Resource Utilization Groups version III Plus (RUG-III Plus) is a decision-support tool that can be used in the Canadian residential care sector to identify peer organizations, inform resource allocation and assist with planning. RUG-III Plus is an update to the RUG-III grouping methodology and is applied to residential care assessment data. Table 1 summarizes the differences between the RUG-III and RUG-III Plus grouping methodologies and refers to the information collected on a resident's assessment.

Table 1 RUG-III and RUG-III Plus differences

Category	RUG-III	RUG-III Plus
Special Rehabilitation	—	—
Extensive Services	High degree of ADL impairment and a list of 5 Extensive Services items define category assignment criteria Sum of Extensive Services items defines group assignment criteria	High degree of ADL impairment and a list of 4 Extensive Services items define category assignment criteria Combinations of Extensive Services items define group assignment criteria
Special Care	—	—
Clinically Complex	—	—
Impaired Cognition	—	Hierarchy reversed: Behaviour Problems
Behaviour Problems	—	Hierarchy reversed: Impaired Cognition
Reduced Physical Functions	—	—



Extensive Services differences

The most substantial differences between the RUG-III and RUG-III Plus grouping methodologies are the changes made to the Extensive Services clinical criteria that are used to assign RUG-III Plus groups to residents' assessments. These changes are summarized in Table 2 and refer to the information collected on a resident's assessment.

Table 2 RUG-III and RUG-III Plus Extensive Services differences

Grouping methodology	Category assignment criteria*	Group assignment		
		Group criteria	ADL impairment	Group
RUG-III	High ADL impairment score (7 to 18) AND Parenteral/IV (K5a = 1) OR IV medication (P1ac = 1) OR Suctioning (P1ai = 1) OR Tracheostomy care (P1aj = 1) OR Ventilator or respirator (P1al = 1)	4 or 5 Extensive Services clinical indicators	7 to 18	SE3
		2 or 3 Extensive Services clinical indicators		SE2
		0 or 1 Extensive Services clinical indicators		SE1
RUG-III Plus	High ADL impairment score (7 to 18) AND Tracheostomy care (P1aj = 1) OR Ventilator or respirator (P1al = 1) OR Antibiotic-resistant infection (I2a = 1) OR <i>Clostridium difficile</i> (I2c = 1)	Tracheostomy care AND ventilator/respirator care	7 to 18	SE3
		Tracheostomy care OR ventilator/respirator care		SE2
		Infection requiring isolation		SE1

Note

* Affects the Extensive Services, Special Care and Clinically Complex categories.



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