

PROVIDER BULLETIN

NO. 10-20

Date: June 17, 2010

TO: Medicaid Providers of Nursing Facility Services

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Joette Novak, Program Specialist

RE: **RUG-III Grouper Upgrade-Related Changes: MDS Assessment Effective Dates**

This Provider Bulletin provides information on the effective dates and calculations for the new RUG III 5.20 levels of care and the required MDS Assessment forms. It supplements information contained in Provider Bulletins 10-09 and 10-23.

MDS Effective Dates

The following MDS assessments will be assigned the new RUG III 5.20 levels of care:

- Admission Assessment with an admission date on or after July 1, 2010
- Discharge without an Admission Assessment with a discharge date on or after July 1, 2010
- Assessments received by DHHS after 5 P.M. on June 10, 2010

All current MDS Assessments in the Nebraska Medicaid Casemix database will be converted to the new RUG III 5.20 levels of care on July 1, 2010.

To bill for services provided prior to July 1, 2010, use the current RUG III 5.01 level of care.
To bill for services provided on or after July 1, 2010, use the new RUG III 5.20 level of care.

To help ensure a smooth transition to the new RUG levels of care, please check your June 2010 Care Level report and take the steps necessary to correct missing or incorrect information.

Your July 2010 Care Level report will contain the new RUG III 5.20 levels of care for each of your residents.

MDS Section S

Section S of the MDS contains the state-specific data fields. Effective July 1, 2010, if a resident does not have a Social Security Number, the only required field on Nebraska's Section S is Item S2 Resident Identifier. For residents without a Social Security Number,

contact Joette Novak at 402-471-9279 or Joette.Novak@nebraska.gov, to request a DHHS-assigned Resident Identifier to enter in this field. For residents with a DHHS-assigned Resident Identifier, Item S2 must be completed on each Assessment or Tracking form. A new MDS 3.0 Section S form, containing only the Resident Identifier data field will be available prior to October 1, 2010.

MDS Quarterly Assessment Form

Only the 1997 updated RUGS III 3-page Quarterly Assessment or the full Quarterly Assessment (if coded as a "6" Other State Required Assessment in section Aa8B of the MDS) will be accepted.

MDS Software Vendors

Please share this information with your MDS Software vendor.

RUG III 5.20 Calculation Worksheet

To calculate the 34 new RUG III 5.20 levels of care, visit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) website below and click on the '34 Group Worksheet' link (the category scoring for the 5.12 and the 5.20 grouper are the same).

http://www.cms.gov/MDS20SWSpecs/12_RUG-IIIVersion5.asp#TopOfPage

Website Subscription

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<http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/med/updates.htm>

For questions about this Provider Bulletin, contact Joette Novak at 402-471-9279 or Joette.Novak@nebraska.gov.