

Read Me File for RUG-III Version 5.20 For Swing Beds

The RUG-III Version 5.20 Swing Bed Grouper package includes the 53-group RUG-III model that will be used for billing Medicare Part A Swing Bed PPS days of service starting January 1, 2006. This package provides general information, software, and technical documentation for RUG-III Version 5.20.

Technical Assistance. If you have questions that are not answered by the Version 5.20 Grouper package, please refer to the CMS web site

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/providers/snfpps/swingbed_specs.asp

or the QIES Technical Support Office (QTSO) web site for further information or for contact information to receive assistance.

<http://www.qtso.com/vendor.html>

Version 5.20 of the Swing Bed Grouper Package includes user information and source code for both a dynamic-link library (DLL) written in C++ and a SAS module. Version 5.20 implements the 2005 Refinement to the RUG-III model. This refinement adds a 53-group RUG-III model to the existing 34-group¹ and 44-group models, and version 5.20 of the grouper performs classifications for all three models. The 53-group model consists of the 44-group model with 9 new groups added. The added groups identify high-cost residents who receive both rehabilitation therapy services and extensive care services. The 53-group model will be used in the Medicare Swing Bed payment system beginning 01/01/2006.

Files Available with Version 5.20

[R520Sv1.ZIP](#) (1,119 KB) a compressed ZIP file containing 24 documents. One component file named "Grouper Doc.pdf" lists all of the 24 component files. The component files include:

- General information files.
- Files describing the DLL and its use in C++, Visual Basic 6, and Visual Basic .NET programs.
- Example programs using the DLL with C++, Visual Basic 6, and Visual Basic .NET programs.
- Files describing the SAS module and its use.
- An example program using the SAS module.
- Standard test data files and documentation for these files.
- A file describing the transition from the 44-group model to the 53-group model for the Medicare Swing Bed payment system.

¹ Although the 34-group model will probably not be of interest to most swing bed hospital applications, it is included in the Grouper for completeness.

Version 5.20 Approach and Features

In the previous swing bed grouper version (5.12), only the RUG-III 44-group model was supported. Version 5.20 of the RUG-III Swing Bed Grouper uses a single module to perform classifications with the 34-group model, the 44-group model, and the new 53-group model. When calling the module, the user specifies which model to use. Although the 34-group model will probably not be of interest in most swing bed applications, it is included for completeness.

In the previous grouper version, the user was required to specify that classification be hierarchical or index maximizing classification. If both types of classification were desired, then 2 separate calls to the grouper had to be made. Version 5.20 of the grouper always returns both hierarchical and index maximizing classification results. Both types of classification are obtained with a single call.

Version 5.20 continues to support special Medicare Rehabilitation qualification (ordered therapies are considered on Swing Bed PPS 5-day and readmission/return assessments). If the user requests special Medicare Rehabilitation qualification, then both hierarchical and index maximizing results will be returned using that special qualification.

The previous grouper version provided RUG-III classification code (pseudocode) in dBase/Clipper, SAS code, and a DLL based on Visual Basic for the 44-group model only. Version 5.20 of the grouper provides a more complete array of products including:

- Working C++ classification code for all three models (34-group, 44-group, and 53-group).
- Working SAS classification code for all three models.
- A classification DLL based on C++ for all three models.

The new DLL has been developed in C++ to allow use with a wider range of platforms and has been tested with C++, Visual Basic 6, and Visual Basic .NET.