



## PEPPER Sessions Chapter 5 Top Diagnosis SNF

During this session, I'm going to review the top Resource Utilization Groups, or RUGs, reports that are found in the Skilled Nursing Facility PEPPER. The Top RUGs Report identifies the top RUGs by the number of days billed for each of those RUGs for episodes of care that end in the most recent fiscal year. In the report, we see that number of RUG days billed, the percent of RUG days to total days, the percent of episodes that have RUG billed to total episodes, and the skilled nursing facility's average length of stay for the RUG. Now, there are two reports included in skilled nursing facility PEPPER. One identifies the top RUGs for all episodes of care, and the other identifies the top RUGs for episodes of care that are more than 90 days in length.

Both of these reports are supplemental, and they don't have any impact on outlier status or risk for improper payments.

We also include in the PEPPER jurisdiction level reports that identify for all the skilled nursing facilities in the jurisdiction, the same type of information for all episodes in the jurisdiction, the top RUGs for all episodes, and the RUGs for 90 day plus episodes. And they include the same types of data elements as the skilled nursing facility specific reports.

So, let's take a look at a sample skilled nursing facility PEPPER, so you can see how they are put together. This is a sample skilled nursing facility report, a skilled nursing facility PEPPER, and we are on the tab titled skilled nursing facility top RUG. In this report, we are identifying the top RUGs for the skilled nursing facility for all episodes of care that end in the most recent four quarters. It's sorted in descending order by the number of RUG days billed, and here we see the total number of episodes that end in the most recent fiscal year. The report will include the RUG code, the RUG description, the number of days, RUG days billed, the percent of RUG days to total days, the percent of episodes that have that RUG billed to all episodes, and the average number of days by RUG. And, you can see that we do list the RUGs on this report. There has to be at least 11 episodes that end in the most recent fiscal year, and then there must be at least 11 RUG days billed to each individual RUG in order for the RUG to be displayed on the report.

So, this particular SNF this has 20 RUGs that are displayed in the report. We have statistics for those RUGs, as well as summary level statistics for the top RUGs, and for all the RUGs. Below the table is a note that identifies how we identify the episode of care and reminding you that we display the RUGs, that there are at least 11 episodes of care. And if there are at least 11 days billed to the RUG in the most recent fiscal year.

On the skilled nursing facility top RUGs 90 plus days report, we have identification information for the episodes that are 90 days or more in length, the same type of information. So, we see that this skilled nursing facility had 70 episodes with 90 or more days. Again, the RUG code and description, the number RUG days billed, the percent of RUG days to total days, percent of episodes that have that RUG billed to total episodes, and the average number of days by RUG.

Now, here you can see that this particular skilled nursing facility does not have the full report populated because the remaining RUGs had fewer than 11 RUG days billed. So, this report will identify or will

include those RUGs that have at least 11 days billed during the most recent fiscal year. And if the total number of episodes is less than 11, then this report will not be populated.

The next tab is the jurisdiction top RUG report, and this report identifies at the jurisdiction level, the top RUGs for all episodes. Again, this includes the same type of information as the skilled nursing facility specific report, summarized at the jurisdiction level.

And then the very last tab, we'll click on jurisdiction top RUGs 90 plus days, and so for all the episodes that are 90 or more days in length and ending in the jurisdiction, total number of episodes, and the same type of information, number of RUG days billed, percent of days to total days, the percent of episodes, and the average number of RUG days in the jurisdiction.

This information is provided at the jurisdiction level, so that you might be able to compare your statistics with the jurisdiction level statistics, if that's something that interests you.