The 3M advantage

3M IR-DRGs are designed specifically for international health care but are not limited to use in a particular country.

While developed by 3M based on the DRG classifications in the United States, the 3M IR-DRGs are geographically agnostic.

Definition and scope

Hospitals, payers and researchers worldwide use 3M IR-DRGs as part of their funding systems and for budgeting, outcomes analysis, benchmarking and performance measures. The system compares resource consumption across facilities and regions, supporting both local and national health system management.

The system’s inpatient component is derived from the 3M™ All Patient Refined DRG (APR DRG) Classification System and includes three levels of adjustment for severity-of-illness to better capture the complexity of care. 3M IR-DRGs use the risk-of-mortality (ROM) sub-classes to evaluate inpatient quality outcomes. The core ambulatory component is derived from the Ambulatory Payment Classifications (APCs), the outpatient classification system developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

3M IR-DRGs provide consistent DRG assignment regardless of the coding system used. They group cases with similar clinical scope and resource consumption. By using procedures rather than principal diagnosis as a starting point, the 3M IR-DRGs help align inpatient and outpatient services to reduce redundancy.

Designed for all patient populations

3M IR-DRGs are designed for all patient populations, including sick and healthy newborns, pediatrics and obstetrics and include all patient settings except long-term care.
The system can group both inpatient and ambulatory services, including:

- Hospital inpatients
- Clinic
- Hospital same-day
- Office visit
- Hospital clinic
- Rehabilitation
- Emergency department
- Chemotherapy and radiation therapy

**Availability in 3M products**

The 3M IR-DRGs are available in the 3M™ Core Grouping Software (CGS). For countries using U.S. coding classification, 3M IR-DRGs can also be used in the 3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System (CRS).

**Value for international clients**

3M IR-DRGs are continuously maintained to reflect current classifications used worldwide. They are actively used in various healthcare systems around the world, including Hong Kong, Chile, the United Arab Emirates, the Czech Republic and Spain.