General PASRR Process

Simplified for illustration.
Full program requirements at 42 CFR 483.100 -138

Purpose
To ensure that nursing facility (NF) applicants and residents with mental illness and/or mental retardation are:

- Identified
- Admitted or remain in a NF only if they can be appropriately served in the NF
- Provided with needed MI/MR services, including Specialized Services (SS), if needed

The PASRR regulations are complex.
However, some of the complexity arises from provisions to reduce unnecessary evaluations in certain circumstances, (shown in diamond decision boxes in following figures), e.g., categorical determinations.

In most cases PASRR consists of a Level I screen, and if indicated, Level II evaluation and determinations, as shown here.
PASRR  Preadmission Screening and Resident Review

**Level I** State PASRR program screens for possible mental illness (MI) or mental retardation (MR) in nursing facility (NF) applicants. This is referred to as Level I, and precedes Preadmission Screening (PAS) or Resident Review (RR).

**NF Applicants: Level I Identification Screen**

- All Applicants, regardless of payer, before admission to a Medicaid-Certified NF (or distinct part)
- Applicant meets State NF level of care
- Exemption from Level II for certain hospital discharges
- Evidence of MI/MR

**Level I Identification Screen** for suspected MI/MR

- No MI/MR → Admit to NF
- Yes → Track exempted NF admissions with suspected MI/MR. Stays > 30 days initiate a Level II evaluation

**Nursing Facility Residents: Identifying Change in Condition**

- Residents without identified MI/MR
- Residents with identified MI/MR
- MDS indicates suspected MI/MR
- MDS indicates significant change in condition

**Preadmission Screening (PAS)**

**Level II PASRR Evaluation**

1. SMA (State Medicaid Agency)
2. SMHA (State Mental Health Authority), SMRA (State Mental Retardation Authority)
3. Any MDS change in condition is reported. Therefore, SMH/MRA or designee (not the NF) determines whether the change is relevant to MI/MR and whether Level II evaluation is needed.
Level II: A comprehensive evaluation and 2 determinations — need for specialized services and need for NF. MI and MR are evaluated separately.

PASRR Level II — Mental Illness Evaluation

Process same as for Mental Illness, except State Mental Retardation Authority is responsible for evaluations as well as determinations.

NF applicants identified in Level I with suspected MI/MR

Do any Categorical Determinations for NF or SS apply?

Yes: SS and NF are both categorical

No Categorical Determinations

No: SS not categorical

Yes: NF is categorical

NF residents with suspected new MI/MR or changed status

Suspected MI

Individualized evaluation: SS only

Individual SS Determination

Categorical SS and NF evaluation report & determination notice

Categorical NF report & notice. Individualized SS evaluation report & determination notice.

Individualized NF & SS evaluation report and determination notice.

SS Determination by SMHA

NF Determination By SMHA of individual’s total needs & the capability of a specific NF to meet those needs

Individualized Evaluation

By entity independent of State Mental Health Authority

• Diagnosis of MI is made or verified

• Evaluation requirements are identical for PAS and RR

If evaluation shows no serious MI, evaluation may be discontinued

PASRR Level II — Mental Retardation

MI and MR

Any applicant or resident with Level I indication of MI and MR receives both evaluations

Preadmission Screening (PAS)

Resident Review (RR)

See Fig. 4
Categorical Determinations (detail of decision box in fig. 3)

“Advance Group Determinations by Category” (or more simply: Categorical Determinations) allow states to omit the individualized evaluation process if individuals meet certain criteria defined as categories in the state plan.

Note that a categorical determination is not an "exemption" from PASRR.

Categorical NF and SS Determinations (to Fig. 3)

Individualized Level II NF and SS Evaluation

Individual SS Evaluation

Categorical NF Determination (to Fig. 3)
### PASRR Evaluation Reports, Notices of Determination, and Placement Options

#### Individualized Evaluation reports:
- Summary of medical & social history, including strengths & weaknesses, and supports needed for community
- Specific NF services needed
- Specific Specialized Services needed (distinguished from NF services of a lesser intensity that are needed)

#### Categorical Evaluation reports:
- Abbreviated
- Explains the determinations and any further screening needed
- To the extent that data is available, lists NF services and SS needed

#### Determinations
- NF Specific — If the needed NF services and SS cannot be assured at the NF of choice, a determination of NF needed cannot be made. The determination process may be repeated, regarding a different NF, using the same evaluation report.

#### Determination Notices:
- Written notice includes placement options & appeal rights
- Based on the evaluation (or Categorical Determination)
- Addresses both NF and SS determinations

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### Placement Options, by outcome of Determinations

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<th>Needs NF</th>
<th>Needs SS</th>
<th>Placement Options</th>
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| Yes      | Yes‡ or No | - Admit or readmit to NF  
- Provide specialized services if needed  
- Retain current resident  
- Discharge current resident‡  
- Consider ICF/MR, IMD, Psych Hospital, or Home & Community Based Waiver Services |
| No       | No       | - Applicant: Do not admit  
- Resident < 30 months: Discharge‡  
- Resident > 30 months: May choose NF‡  
- If discharged: State still provides SS‡ |
| No       | Yes      | - Admit or readmit to NF,  
- Provide specialized services if needed  
- Retain current resident |

‡ Not applicable in states defining SS as placement not in a NF.