

**Consistency Check**

One part of the data quality checking was to ensure that people were answering questions consistently i.e. if a person could eat without assistance then the person should not require hydration by tube or infusion.

Rules were formulated to look at what would be the most obvious inconsistencies. The results are presented in the table below:

**RUM consistency rules**

		<b><u>Number of cases where rule did not hold</u></b>
<b>RULE 1</b>	If person requires complete assistance when eating or receives nutrition by tube or infusion, Q1, then the response for Q2, drinking, should also be that the person requires complete assistance or hydration by tube or infusion.	9
<b>RULE 2</b>	When transferring from bed to a chair the person does not need the assistance of two or more people, Q3, then the response for Q4, transferring from chair to standing, the person should not need the assistance of two or more people or be chair bound.	22
<b>RULE 3</b>	If the person is able to move outside independently, Q6, then the response for Q3 (transferring from bed to chair), Q4 (transferring from chair to standing) and Q5 (moving inside on a level surface) should all show that the person does not need the assistance of two people or does not carry out these tasks.	4
<b>RULE 4</b>	If when using the toilet, Q7, the person is independent, then the response for Q13 should not be that the person requires prompting or supervision or cannot do without assistance from others.	30
<b>RULE 5</b>	If when using the toilet, Q13, the person is able to do so without difficulty, even with the use of equipment/adaptations, then the response for Q7 should not be that the person requires complete assistance or does not use the toilet.	1
<b>RULE 6</b>	If the person cannot wash their face without complete assistance form others, (Q10), then they should not be able to wash their hair (Q9), have a complete wash (Q11) or dress themselves (Q12) without difficulty.	0

<b>RULE 7</b>	If when using the toilet (Q7 and Q13) the person is independent then the response to Q19A and Q19B, bladder and bowel management, should either require no intervention or intervention less than once a week on average.	55
<b>RULE 8</b>	If the person is able to prepare, cook and serve themselves a main meal without difficulty, even using equipment and adaptations (Q26), then they should also be able to do the same when preparing themselves a light snack (Q27) or a hot drink (Q28).	1
<b>RULE 9</b>	If, when moving outside the home the person needs the assistance of at least one other person (Q6), then the response for Q29 (shopping), Q30 (light housework) and Q31 (laundry) should not show that the person is able to carry out these tasks without difficulty.	34
<b>RULE 10</b>	If the person is able to shop without difficulty (Q29), then they should be able to move outside the home independently (Q6).	1

The two rules that show a higher level of inconsistency are RULE 7 and RULE 9. For RULE 7 the explanation for so many cases failing the rule could be due to successful intervention.

However RULE 9 is of greater concern, as there is a clear inconsistency in answering that the person is not mobile outside the home without assistance and then able to perform the home care tasks without difficulty.

With the exception of these two rules the results show that on the whole the questions are being answered consistently.