BOARD DECISION RESEARCH · RATEMYVSO

# SMC-R1 AND R2 AT THE BOARD

The two care levels have different predicates, grant rates, denial patterns, and evidence records.

| 1,753 | 53.4% | 39.5% | 1992-2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| R-LEVEL ISSUES | R1 GRANTED OF DECIDED | R2 GRANTED OF DECIDED | DECISION YEARS |

## R1 VERSUS R2

DECIDED OUTCOMES

### 377 / 329
**SMC-R1**

377 grants and 329 denials. The recurring questions are the O or maximum-P predicate and the need for regular aid and attendance.

### 134 / 205
**SMC-R2**

134 grants and 205 denials. The added question is whether daily care rises to personal health-care services requiring training or regular professional supervision.

## LEADING DENIAL REASONS

COUNT BY LEVEL

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| R1: no loss of use established | 55 | R2: no higher-level care need | 77 |
| R1: independent self-care | 42 | R2: no loss of use | 24 |
| R1: not permanently bedridden | 33 | R2: vision criteria not met | 9 |
| R1: vision criteria not met | 29 | R2: A&A factors not met | 7 |

## EVIDENCE RECORDS CITED

R1 AND R2

### SMC-R1

VA examinations: 951
Lay or buddy statements: 390
VA Form 21-2680: 272
Private medical opinions: 267
Hospital records: 205

### SMC-R2

VA examinations: 442
Caregiver statements: 164
Lay or buddy statements: 155
Private medical opinions: 146
VA Form 21-2680: 139

**R2 is not established merely because a family member provides care. The record must show prescribed daily personal health-care services and the required professional supervision.**