

Eli's Rehab Report

Reader Questions: Know When An Unscheduled OMRA Is Okay

Question: The resident's 60-day MDS has an Assessment Reference Date (ARD) of Feb. 8. The physical therapist informed me that a Change of Therapy (COT) was needed on Feb. 15 but did not notify me until Feb. 17. Can I still open the COT?

Answer: Yes, you can. There is a two-day grace period for opening any unscheduled stand-alone Other Medicare Required Assessment (OMRA). According to the RAI Manual, Chapter 2, page 55:

".....facilities must set the ARD for the assessment for a day within the allowable ARD window for that assessment type, but may only do so no more than two days after the window has passed."

Source: Answers provided by **Marilyn Mines, RN, BC, RAC-CT**, senior manager of clinical services for **FR&R Healthcare Consulting Inc.** in Deerfield, Ill.