

## MDS Alert

### Compliance: Know How the RAI Manual Defines a Leave of Absence

**The RAI manual states:** "A leave of Absence (LOA), which does not require completion of either a discharge assessment or an entry tracking record, occurs when a resident has a:

1. Temporary home visit of at least one night; or
2. Therapeutic leave of at least one night; or
3. Hospital observation stay of less than 24 hours and the hospital does not admit the patient.

"Providers should refer to Chapter 6 and their State LOA policy for further information, if applicable. Upon return, providers should make appropriate documentation in the medical record regarding any changes in the resident," states the manual.

Source: RAI User's Manual, Chapter 2.