

MDS Alert

Test Yourself: Can You Administer the BIMS in Writing if the Resident Requests It?

Suppose a resident prefers to do the Brief Interview for Mental Status in writing. Will that approach pass muster with CMS?

Answer: The RAI User's Manual notes that "when staff identify that the resident's primary method of communication is in written format, the BIMS can be administered in writing. **The administration of the BIMS in writing should be limited to this circumstance,**" states the manual. "See Appendix E for details regarding how to administer the BIMS in writing."