

MDS Alert

Time Management Tip: Don't Get Too Wrapped Up in RAPs When Doing an SCSA

Work smart when doing this comprehensive assessment.

Some MDS teams disdain doing significant change in status assessments because they don't want to work the RAPs. But you don't have to reinvent the wheel when doing this assessment.

"If the resident has no changes in 12 of the RAPs, for example, you don't have to redo those," says **Roberta Reed, MSN, RN**, a consultant with Plante & Moran Clinical Group in Cleveland, Ohio. Reed. "You refer back to the previous RAPs and document that there has been no change -- that is, the triggers are the same and whatever the sig change was did not affect that RAP," she adds. Then you work the RAPs that have changed. If there are no changes in a RAP, the RAI User's Manual advises, document that "and bring that RAP forward," specifying "where the supporting documentation can be located in the medical record."