

MDS Alert

What Do You Think?: Completing R2b, VB2 and VB4 On The Same Day

Could you, would you, should you?

The RAI rules don't forbid a facility from completing the MDS (R2b), RAPs (VB2) and care plan (VB4) all on the same date.

But even though the RAI manual says you can do that, the practice doesn't give you any "wiggle room," says **Diane Brown, CEO of Brown LTC Consultants** in Boston. Thus, it should not be the standard practice, in her view. "Managing the work flow is the issue," she says.

If the MDS team does the RAPs and care plan in the right way, the practice of doing them on the same day is OK, adds **Marilyn Mines, RN, BC**, director of clinical services for **FR&R Healthcare Consulting** in Deerfield, IL. But it's not something you'd want to do on a regular basis, she says -- and not if you have more than one or two residents with the same R2b date. For one, it would tie up the interdisciplinary staff for hours, especially nurses, Mines says.