

OASIS Alert

Educations: WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A RECENT ASSESSMENT

Question: If an agency misses the recert window of Day 56 to 60, which action should it take?

- A) Discharge and readmit the patient; or
- B) Conduct the recertification assessment late.

Answer: B. If you don't complete the recert assessment in the required five-day window, do not discharge and readmit the patient, the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** instructs in question A11 of its most recent series of questions and answers.

Instead, as soon as you realize you've missed it, send a clinician to perform the assessment. Put the actual date of the assessment in M0090 and document in the clinical record why the recert was late, CMS says. You can transmit the late recert, although you will see a warning message about the non-compliant assessment date. "No time frame has been set after which it would be too late to complete this late assessment," but you should complete it as soon as possible, CMS explains.

Discuss payment implications with your intermediary and be aware that this error demonstrates non-compliance with Conditions of Participation, the agency warns.

Note: The OASIS Q&As are at www.qtso.com.