

MDS/RAI Modification Policy Update

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The updated policy will be implemented with submissions of MDS 3.0 assessments as of April 1, 2011.

Current policy (page 510 of the RAI manual) allows providers to modify an assessment when key resident ID items (name, birth date, gender, or SSN), Reason for Assessment Items (A3010), and event date (ARD, Entry Date, and Discharge Date) are determined to be inaccurate. CMS reviewed the policy and will make the following policy changes:

- Providers will not be able to modify assessments when reason for assessment items and/or event dates is inaccurate. Reasons:
 - **Assessment Items:** The facility might not have gathered data for all required items. If one item or more is inaccurate, can't be modified.
 - **Event Dates:** The look back window is altered when these dates are changed. Existing assessments cannot be modified and event dates cannot be changed.
 - If the event date is inaccurate, the assessment that contains the incorrect information will have to be inactivated and a new corrected assessment submitted. The inaccurate version will be moved to history.
- As states on page 510, providers will be able to modify assessments to correct key Resident ID items.

Chapter 5 will be updated to reflect the new policy. Information will be shared with stakeholders at Open Door Forums and other calls; and via other communication methods, including a possible Survey and Certification letter.