

**G520****(Rev. 182, Issued: 09-28-18, Effective: 09-28-18, Implementation: 09-28-18)**

**§484.55(b)(1) The comprehensive assessment must be completed in a timely manner, consistent with the patient's immediate needs, but no later than 5 calendar days after the start of care.**

**Interpretive Guidelines §484.55(b)(1)**

The start of care date is considered to be the first visit where the HHA actually provides hands on, direct care services or treatments to the patient. If an initial assessment is completed without any direct care services being provided by the HHA during the assessment visit, the date of that initial assessment visit would not be the start of care date. The comprehensive assessment must be completed within 5 calendar days of the first visit where the HHA provides hands on, direct care services/treatments to the patient.