

Veterans Health Administration, Office of Disability and Medical Assessment (DMA) Ratability Quality Criteria For FY20

August 22, 2019

Key Elements for Requests	Reference
1. If this is a Mental Health, BVA Remand, IDES, Quick Start, General Medical, SHA, BDD, or claim for Female Sexual Arousal Disorder (FSAD), did the request require an in-person examination?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
2. If this is a VBMS request, and the claims folder is required to be reviewed, was the evidence scanned into the system BEFORE the request was initiated?	Ordering Examinations and Medical Opinions for Claims with Documentation Needing Examiner Review in the eFolder
3. Is the request void of any discrepancies, inconsistencies or contradictions?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
4. Does the request identify a specific condition (or conditions)?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
5. Did the requestor provide contact information on the request?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
6. If a medical opinion is requested , does the remark section summarize the pertinent evidence available for the examiner's review?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
7. If a medical opinion is requested , does the request clearly state the nature of the opinion requested?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
8. If a medical opinion is requested , does the request avoid asking the examiner to answer a legal question?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
Key Elements for Reports	Reference
9. Is the examiner currently registered and certified to perform this type of examination?	VHA Directive 1603
10. Does the report address the exam/DBQ worksheet criteria for the condition(s) at issue?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3 VHA Directive 1046
11. Does the examiner reconcile/explain any internal discrepancies, inconsistencies or contradictions?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3
12. Does the report provide a precise diagnosis (or explain why a precise diagnosis was not provided) for each condition at issue?	M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3 C&P Disability Examinations Procedure Manual

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<p>13. If there is a change in the diagnosis of a service connected condition, did the examiner provide an explanation or rationale for the change?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">38 CFR 4.13 M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3</p>
<p>14. If the examiner documented the presence of a noted or suspicious condition requiring immediate medical care or further evaluation, was there documentation that the Veteran/Service Member was notified?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">C&P Disability Examinations Procedure Manual VHA Directive 2013-002, Documentation of Medical Evidence for Disability Evaluation Purposes</p>
<p>15. If a medical opinion was requested, did the examiner indicate that the claim file, VBMS, and/or Virtual VA were reviewed in conjunction with any other records?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3 C&P Disability Examinations Procedure Manual</p>
<p>16. If a medical opinion was requested, was the requested medical opinion provided?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3 C&P Disability Examinations Procedure Manual</p>
<p>17. If a medical opinion was requested, was a rationale provided for the requested medical opinion?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual, Part III. iv.3 C&P Disability Examinations Procedure Manual</p>