#### Department of Veterans Affairs M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv

**Veterans Benefits Administration August 28, 2015**

**Washington, DC 20420**

#### Transmittal Sheet

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| Changes Included in This Revision | The table below describes the changes included in this revision of Veterans Benefits Manual M21-1, Part III, “General Claims Process,” Subpart iv, “General Rating Process.”  ***Note***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to   * clarify block labels and/or text * add cross references, and * bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add that it is inappropriate to apply 38 CFR 4.59 to assign a compensable evaluation for a joint based solely on crepitus without painful motion. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv, Chapter 4, Section A, Topic 1, Block l  (III.iv.4.A.1.l) |
| To remove information from the block that is not related to the main principle in the block label (separate evaluations for knee instability and knee limitation of motion). | III.iv.4.A.3.f |
| To create a new block for enhanced and clarified guidance that separate evaluations cannot be assigned under diagnostic codes for knee limitation of motion and diagnostic codes for meniscus disabilities (5258 and 5259). | III.iv.4.A.3.g |
| To create a new block clarifying that separate evaluations cannot be assigned under diagnostic codes for knee instability (5257) and diagnostic codes for meniscus disabilities (5258 and 5259). | III.iv.4.A.3.h |
| To create a new block for guidance on separate evaluations in cases of genu recurvatum. | III.iv.4.A.3.i |

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| Rescissions | None |

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| Authority | By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits |

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| Signature | Thomas J. Murphy, Director  Compensation Service |

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