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

**Veterans Benefits Administration July 8, 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.”  ***Notes***:   * The term “regional office” (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), where appropriate. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update incorrect or obsolete references * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks, where necessary, to account for new and/or deleted blocks within a topic * clarify block labels and/or block text, and * bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add new Block b providing guidance that a history of radical surgery or repeated surgeries is not required if the rest of the rating criteria are met to evaluate sinusitis as 50-percent disabling. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv, Chapter 4, Section D, Topic 1, Block b (III.iv.4.D.1.b) |
| To add an exception to the requirement of pulmonary function test (PFT) results for evaluation purposes regarding use of the diffusion capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide (DLCO) score values instead of PFT results. | III.iv.4.D.1.k |

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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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