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

**Veterans Benefits Administration July 5, 2015**

**Washington, DC 20420**

#### Transmittal Sheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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. * Unless otherwise noted, the term “claims folder” refers to the official, numbered, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) repository – whether paper or electronic – for all documentation relating to claims that a Veteran and/or his/her survivors file with VA. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update incorrect or obsolete references * 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. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add a new Block b providing guidance and an example for digestive conditions which should not be combined with each other under certain diagnostic codes (DCs) in 38 CFR 4.114 for evaluation purposes. | M21-1, Part III,  Subpart iv, Chapter 4,  Section I, Topic 1, Block b  (III.iv.4.I.1.b) |
| To add a new Block c providing the definition of bone marrow transplant and stem cell transplant, and to provide guidance on the evaluation of such procedures. | III.iv.4.I.4.c |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rescissions | None |

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

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Distribution | LOCAL REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED |