**Department of Veterans Affairs** **Part IV, Subpart ii**

**Veterans Benefits Administration September 22, 2014**

**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 M21-1MR, Part IV, “Compensation, DIC, and Death Compensation Benefits,” Subpart ii, “Compensation.”  ***Note***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to   * clarify Block labels and/or Block text, and * bring the documents into conformance with M21-1MR standards. |

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| Reasons for the Changes | Citation | Page(s) |
| * To reinsert a note previously deleted in error that abnormal lab results are not themselves disabilities for VA purposes. * To clarify that staff should not solicit a claim based only on discovered abnormal lab results. * To emphasize that a claim for a benefit citing abnormal lab findings may need clarification. * To add a note clarifying that filings mentioning exposure without mentioning a disability alleged to have resulted from that exposure are not substantially complete. * To clarify that claims must be sympathetically read. * To add references. | Part IV, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section A, Topic 1, Block a (IV.ii.2.A.1.a) | 2-A-2  2-A-3 |
| * To add references to a MR provision on evaluating evidence and to cases discussing negative evidence and weighing absence of treatment. | IV.ii.2.A.2.a | 2-A-9 |
| * To add a reference to a court citation on lost or destroyed service treatment records. | IV.ii.2.A.2.b | 2-A-10 |

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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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