

DRC Phase One – Is the Claim Ready for Submission?

Ready to Submit Exercise

Review the following scenarios and determine if the claim is ready for submission. Assume all forms and exams are complete, unless noted. Also, assume that the claims folder is present in VBMS. The current evaluation of all service-connected conditions is provided.

1. The Veteran is filing a claim for increase for the following conditions:

- **posttraumatic stress disorder (30%)**
- **sleep apnea (30%)**
- **bilateral hearing loss (10%)**
- **tinnitus (0%)**
- **left knee strain (0%)**

The Veteran has provided the following forms/evidence:

- **VA Form 21-526EZ**
- **VA Form 21-4138 (Veteran’s statement)**
- **VA Form 21-686c**
- **PTSD – Review DBQ**
- **Contractor Exam: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**
- **Knee and Lower Leg DBQ**
- **Private Medical Records from Dr. Jones (showing the Veteran needs a CPAP machine)**

Should you submit the claim through Direct Upload under the DRC Program?

YES NO

Why/Why Not?

2. The Veteran is filing a claim for increase for the following conditions:

- **Parkinson's disease (100%)**
- **right knee strain (10%)**
- **left knee strain (10%)**
- **bilateral hearing loss (0%)**
- **abdominal scar, status post appendectomy (0%)**

The Veteran has provided the following forms/evidence:

- **VA Form 21-526EZ**
- **VA Form 21-4138 (spouse's statement)**
- **VA Form 21-2680 (showing need for aid & attendance due to Parkinson's)**
- **Parkinson's Disease DBQ**
- **Mental Disorders DBQ**
- **Knee and Lower Leg DBQ**
- **Scars DBQ**
- **Contractor Exam: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**

Should you submit the claim through Direct Upload under the DRC Program?

YES NO

Why/Why Not?

3. The Veteran is filing a claim for increase for the following conditions:

- **depression (70%)**
- **traumatic brain injury (50%)**
- **sleep apnea (50%)**
- **diabetes mellitus (10%)**
- **degenerative disc disease, lumbosacral spine (10%)**
- **bilateral hearing loss (0%)**
- **tinnitus (0%)**

The Veteran has provided the following forms/evidence:

- **VA Form 21-526EZ**
- **VA Form 21-4138 (Veteran's statement)**
- **Contractor Exam: Mental Disorders DBQ (the psychologist clearly denotes what symptoms are related to the depression and which are related to TBI)**
- **Contractor Exam: TBI – Review DBQ (filled out by the same examiner who completed the Mental Disorders DBQ)**
- **Sleep Apnea DBQ**
- **Diabetes Mellitus DBQ (the DBQ states that the Veteran's diabetes mellitus has caused the following conditions: bilateral lower extremity peripheral neuropathy, coronary artery disease, diabetic retinopathy, and diabetes nephropathy)**
- **Back (Lumbosacral Spine) Conditions DBQ**
- **Diabetic Peripheral Nueropathy DBQ**
- **Heart DBQ**
- **Eye DBQ (completed by an ophthalmologist)**
- **Kidney Conditions (Nephrology) DBQ**
- **Contractor Exam: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**

Should you submit the claim through Direct Upload under the DRC Program?

YES NO

Why/Why Not?
