Compensation Service Pre-Discharge Staff host this call to announce updates, address issues and field questions related to Pre-Discharge Programs (BDD/IDES). All Military Services Coordinators (MSCs), Disability Rating Activity Sites (DRAS), Regional Offices and other VA personnel supporting Pre-Discharge Programs are invited to participate.

This Read-Ahead (R/A) is provided to facilitate discussion during the Conference Call.

Call Notes from the June 2023 Call are in Appendix 1. The TMS # for this month’s call will be provided during the call and will be active about a week after the call. A Calendar Blast will notify the field when the TMS # is active.

**Call-in Information**

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_MGQ3YzU1N2EtMWJiOC00NzA4LWJmYmYtYTc3ZjhlYjFmNWY5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e95f1b23-abaf-45ee-821d-b7ab251ab3bf%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a0338b5c-0526-4e13-9809-5d0ecc8cdeb8%22%7d)

+1 872-701-0185: 63193284#

The Read Ahead is sent out via a Calendar Invite update.

Remember to mute your microphone and turn off your camera.

To ask a question after the call begins, please raise your hand (click the hand icon) or type it in the Teams Chat—**do not unmute to ask a question, comment, or respond to questions until called upon**. Once your question/comment is addressed, lower your hand (click the hand icon again). Scenario/Case Specific questions will not be answered on the call. Send an email with details to the appropriate staff email box. Ask questions about the topic(s) being discussed, all other questions should be asked during Open Floor.

Please sign–up for the [C&P Calendar Subscription Service](http://vbacodmoint1.vba.va.gov/bl/21/calendar/cal_Subscribe.asp) to receive notification that the R/A is available and for notification when the TMS number is active.

General Topic for Discussion

**Call Rules and Expectations**

1. This call is provided by Compensation Service Pre-Discharge Programs to provide updates, address issues and field questions relevant to BDD and IDES policy and procedures. The Pre-Discharge Staff is committed to ensure MSCs and other field personnel have accurate and up-to-date information regarding BDD and IDES policy and procedures.
2. The call is being recording and transcribed for training purposes and will be posted in TMS.
3. You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional courteous manner to include refraining from inappropriate language and comments.
4. Pre-approval by our staff is required before any person provides guidance/updates/other info that is related to BDD or IDES.
5. Do not forward the invite to or invite non-VA employees.

**OSHS (LHI) Returned to Exam Scheduling Request (ESR) Drop-down July 3, 2023**

Effective July 3, 2023, claims processors will see OSHS (LHI) in the ESR drop-down and could be the system generated exam provider. The choice will not be overridden unless it meets on overriding criteria discussed in recent calls (Ex: Use same provider for exams needed after original exam request).

**New Entrance Exam DD Form 2807-2**

DoD has changed their entrance exam form from the DD Form 2807-1 to DD Form 2807-2. Either form is acceptable to satisfy the entrance form requirement, so do **not** develop for the 2807-1 if a 2807-2 is of record.

BDD Reminders

**SHA Part A Development Letter**

When sending a development letter for the SHA, Part A to the Service member (SM), select the *Subsequent Development Letter* in VBMS. Add the below two paragraphs to the letter under *What We Need* and set the *Veteran Response* in VBMS to 15 days.

* A completed Separation Health Assessment (SHA) - Part A Self- Assessment form is required for all BDD claims. **Please note, VA cannot request any examinations for your claim until a completed Part A is received.**
* Please complete the SHA, Part A and upload it to your claim on VA.gov at [www.va.gov/disability/upload-supporting-evidence/](http://www.va.gov/disability/upload-supporting-evidence/) or please see the VA contact information below. The SHA, Part A can be accessed at [www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/docs/SHA\_DBQ\_Part\_A\_Self-Assessment.pdf](http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/docs/SHA_DBQ_Part_A_Self-Assessment.pdf).

IDES Reminders

**Duplicate DBQs in VBMS**

Recent changes removed the fix for auto archiving duplicate DBQs coming over from HAIMS. The Pre-Discharge Staff is aware the removal of the fix is causing duplicate DBQs in VBMS and causing additional work for MSCs and DRAS to move the duplicates to the Archive Bin. A fix was scoped for VBMS 30.5 release on July 2, 2023. Please direct any IDES questions to IDES Mailbox.

**MSC Quality Checklist Update**

A new task (Task 12 correctable comments) will be added to the MSC Quality Checklist July 24, 2023. Correctable comments are those items which are not considered to be a “critical” error of the transactions under review but requires additional processing to ensure the correctness and/or completeness of the claim in general.

Other changes include:

* Alignment with [M21-1, III.ii.1.A.2.g](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvaww.vrm.km.va.gov%2Fsystem%2Ftemplates%2Fselfservice%2Fva_kanew%2Fhelp%2Fagent%2Flocale%2Fen-US%2Fportal%2F554400000001034%2Fcontent%2F554400000014108%2FM21-1-Part-III-Subpart-ii-Chapter-1-Section-A-Requesting-Evidence-From-Federal-Record-Custodians%3Fquery%3Denterprise%2520search%232g&data=05%7C01%7C%7C1c176b8918fa4d65fc8908db7d9259f3%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C638241839745827324%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=72Hy9gQPfFDJaLWHodQfj3m%2F4CI46Uh6T6nwlD1i0nI%3D&reserved=0) (Search for VAMC treatment records and upload relevant records, even if the claimant **does not identify** specific treatment at a VAMC)
* the separation of examinations and medical opinions under Task 9
* overdevelopment added to Tasks 4 and 6

Veterans Tracking Application (VTA) Reminders

VTA move to Salesforce and Demo

VTA is moving to Salesforce (SF) with a projected Go-Live date of September 25, 2023. Over the last year or so the Pre-Discharge Staff, DoD and SF programmers we have been conducting weekly meetings, writing requirements, re-programming and testing to ensure a smooth transition. All data to include user profiles will be transferred to SF. Re-registration will not be required and users will continue to sign-in with PIV/CAC. As September 25th gets closer, we will be providing more info and training/demonstrations.

Upcoming Conference Calls

The next BDD/IDES Call is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**, at 2PM ET. Please submit IDES questions and proposed topics for discussion to the IDES Mailbox, and BDD questions and proposed topics for discussion to the BDD Mailbox no later than close of business (COB), Monday, August 21, 2023.

Open Floor

**Appendix 1: Call Notes from the June 2023 BDD/IDES Conference Call**

**Question:** What do I do if the SM refuses to submit a SHA, Part A for a BDD claim?

**Answer:** Exclude the claim from the BDD program and send the claim number and SM’s name to the BDD Mailbox at Predischarge.VBACO@va.gov.

**Question:** What do I do if the SM refuses to submit a SHA, Part A for an IDES referral?

**Answer:** Do not request the examination for the IDES referral, contact the IDES Mailbox at IDES.VBACO@VA.GOV with the IDES case number and name of the SM. Our staff will contact DoD to address this issue.

**Question:** Has any information on SHA, Part A been released on VA.gov?

**Answer:** Yes, there is a link to the SHA, Part A form in the BDD claims submission flow on VA.gov as of June 12, 2023 as well as this [information page on VA.gov](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.va.gov%2Fresources%2Fseparation-health-assessment-for-service-members&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cf2b448bb9d6845c7615b08db6b5cce00%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C638221818582428924%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ysXJQhsNJA1m6Ko1kUTewBjdHTjQ2kKfJ4kdhjmaLIQ%3D&reserved=0).

**Question:** I have a SM who had his examinations completed for a BDD claim and then was referred into the IDES program. The SM’s examinations were completed within one year from today.

**Answer** Examinations are valid for one year unless the SM indicates that the condition has worsened.