

Part V: Is the Claim Ready for Submission **Ready to Submit Exercise**

Instructions/Assumptions:

- Review the following scenarios and determine if the claim is ready for submission.
- The current evaluation of all service-connected conditions is provided.
- All listed forms and exams are complete, unless noted
- A complete VA Form 21-22 and ITF have been submitted
- The complete claims folder is present in VBMS

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 (statement from Veteran)**
- **VA Form 21-686c**
- **Contractor Exam: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Knee and Lower Leg DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: PTSD – Review DBQ**
- **Private Medical Records: showing the Veteran has been prescribed a CPAP**

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 (statement from spouse)**
- **VA Form 21-2680 (showing need for aid & attendance due to Parkinson's)**
- **Contractor Exam: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Knee and Lower Leg DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Mental Disorders DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Parkinson's Disease DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Scars 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 (buddy 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: Hearing Loss and Tinnitus DBQ**
- **Contractor Exam: TBI – Review DBQ (filled out by the same examiner who completed the Mental Disorders DBQ)**
- **Private DBQ: Back (Lumbosacral Spine) Conditions DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Diabetes Mellitus DBQ (the DBQ states that the Veteran’s diabetes mellitus has caused the following complications: bilateral lower extremity diabetic peripheral neuropathy, coronary artery disease, diabetic retinopathy, and diabetic nephropathy)**
- **Private DBQ: Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Eye DBQ (completed by an ophthalmologist)**
- **Private DBQ: Heart DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Kidney Conditions (Nephrology) DBQ**
- **Private DBQ: Sleep Apnea DBQ**

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

YES NO

Why/Why Not?
