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Favorable Findings

OVERVIEW

A favorable finding is a determination of fact, based on applicable laws and regulations, made by the adjudicator on an issue under review. Favorable findings should relate to a material element that would be required to grant the benefit sought.

VBMS has incorporated the ability for users to add, edit, and delete favorable findings, to include free text information, for any issue that is created for a claim in the Rating application.

Documenting Favorable Findings

Step 1: From the Disability Decision Information screen, select the necessary information from the drop-down menus and continue by selecting Next.

	Disability (ocision Information Diagnosis Information Special Issue	e & Examination Information Summ
	Disability Dec Please fit out regard fields before Orcision: Not Service Connected	ision Information continuing to real sector.	
- 1	Select Option	\checkmark	

Step 2: Once all Decision screens are complete, the *Facts*, *Favorable Findings*, *Reference Laws* and *Analysis* tabs will appear under the *Issue Management* tab.



Step 3: Within the Favorable Findings tab, users can add, edit, and delete favorable findings, to include free text information, for any issue that is created for a claim in the Rating application. Each favorable finding, to include free text information, must be added to the Rating Narrative.

Favorable Findings			Actions	
Add Favorable Finding				
Overturned Favorable Finding	s	Justificatio	n	Action



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Step 4: Select the *Add Favorable Finding* button to input favorable findings under the Favorable Findings tab.

Facts	Favorable Findings	Re
Favora	able Findings	
Add Fav	vorable Finding	

Step 5: Select the applicable favorable finding from the *Favorable Templates* dropdown menu. Users also have the option to enter free text in the *Describe Favorable Finding* text box for a favorable finding that may not be available from the drop-down menu.

	Describe Favorable Finding	
		^
		Ų
	Type of Claim/Service Connection	
	Direct V	
	Favorable Templates	
A nexus, or link,	has been established between your claimed issue and an in-service event o	r injury.
fou have been d	ans mare equallying revents injory, or disease that its onset during your servi lagnosed with a disability.	ις,
	Add Finding Close	

Step 6: Click the *Add Finding* button to add the favorable finding to the rating narrative.



Editing a Favorable Finding

Prior to finalizing a rating decision, users can edit favorable findings when free text is required (e.g. "A stressor is conceded based on <insert free text>.") or when a typo may be identified.

In addition, favorable findings must be specific enough so that a claimant, upon reading the notification and rating decision, will be able to determine what evidence was used to make the finding. Users must edit a favorable finding to address the specific evidence that supports the favorable finding.

Step 7: To edit a favorable finding, select the *pen and paper icon* under the *Actions* column.

alifying event, injury, or diseas eatment records from service	e had its onset period January
tment for a right knee injury.	×
A stiene	
Actions	
	alfying event, injury, or diseas: eatment records from service tment for a right knee injury.



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Deleting a Favorable Finding

Step 8: To delete a favorable finding, select the *trashcan icon* under the *Actions* column.

Favor	able Findings		Actions
The e Servio right k	vidence shows that a qualifying event, in e treatment records from service period mee injury.	ury, or disease had its onset during your service. January 2016 to March 2018 show treatment for a	
You h	ave been diagnosed with a disability.	~	P A
		Actions	

Adding Favorable Findings to Rating Narrative

Step 9: Return to the Analysis tab.

Facts	Favorable Findings	Reference Laws	Analysis
🗆 Gener	rated Text: 🖹 📀		

Step 10: Select *Append* to add the favorable finding to the rating narrative.

E* Reasons for Decision: 📔 🚱 Copy	Append	Alternative Text Builder	
An evaluation of 10 percent is granted if the rec evaluation of 20 percent is not warranted unless	ord shows restricted to the shows restricted to the series of the series	acurrent subluxation or lateral instability of the knee which is slight. A higher dence of moderate subluxation or lateral instability of the knee. (38 CFR 4.71a)	^
Favorable Findings identified in this decision:			1
The evidence shows that a qualifying event, inju January 2016 to March 2018 show treatment for	ury, or diseas or a right knee	se had its onset during your service. Service treatment records from service period e injury.	
You have been diagnosed with a disability.			`

Overturning Favorable Findings

VBMS-R allows for a user to overturn a favorable finding previously established by a prior rating decision.

Step 1: To overturn a favorable finding, select the *Overturn* button from the *Favorable Findings* tab.

		Actions
The evidence shows that a qualifying event from service period January 2016 to March	t, injury, or disease had its onset during your service. Service treatment records .2018 show treatment for a right knee injury.	Overtur
You have been diagnosed with a disability.	Ŷ	Overtur
	Actions	
	Overturn	



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Step 2: When selecting the overturn option, a pop-up will display prompting the user to enter a justification. Enter the justification, and click the *Overturn Finding* button.

You are electing to overtur unmis	n a prior favorable finding. Please provide a justification that takable standard necessary to overturn a favorable finding.	meets the clear and
rivate treatment records from May 2	118 to May 2019 show you do not have a diagnosed disability.	
	Overturn Finding Close	

Step 3: Click Save.

Overturned Favorable Findings	Justification	Action	n
You have been diagnosed with a disability.	Private treatment records from May 2018 to May 2019 show you do not have a diagnosed disability.	Undo	
	Return to Dec	ision	Save

Step 4: Return to the *Analysis* tab, and click *Append*. The overturn justification will display in the *Reasons for Decision* text box and be denoted by the text "Based on evidence of record, we have overturned the following finding(s) that we had originally decided in favor of your claim:"



Favorable Findings Related Errors – Glossary Text

If favorable findings are improper or missing, a new rating decision addressing only those issues that did not include the proper or missing information must be generated and finalized with a notification letter.

Also, Compensation Service incorporated the below paragraphs into the VBMS-R National Glossary. Note the reference to [38 CFR 3.103]

Providing favorable findings: The purpose of this rating decision is to explain the favorable findings associated with your claim for _(issue) but were not included in our previous decision of __(date). [38 CFR 3.103]

Note: Only the issue(s) identified as deficient should be addressed in the new rating document.



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