

PMC VSR Intermediate Core Course

**Phase 5.3: Knowledge Enhancer Prep Worksheet**

**Appendix A**

July 2024

**Part 1 – Confirm the Rating**

**Directions**: Read each scenario and determine if the statement is correct or incorrect. Answer each scenario with a (T) for True if correct or (F) for False if incorrect.

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| **Scenario** | **T/F** |
| Each notice of a decision affecting benefits must address any findings made by the adjudicator that are favorable to the claimant. |  |
| Rating decisions for survivor benefits need only document favorable findings in accrued cases involving disability compensation. |  |
| The authorization activity has the authority to deny without a rating decision a claim for survivors’ benefits that involves the issue of service connection (SC) for the cause of death. |  |
| Aside from ratings for accrued benefits for disability compensation issues, favorable findings are addressed in the decision notices. |  |
| Rating decisions for pension or survivor benefits prepared in pension management centers (PMCs) or decision review operations centers are not required to address favorable findings *unless*the rating is prepared for accrued benefits for disability compensation issues. |  |
| If there is a POA, ensure the POA is indicated on the first page of the rating decision. |  |
| If DEA was awarded on another basis during the Veteran’s lifetime, it should not be addressed when evaluating a claim for survivors’ benefits. |  |
| If death was service-connected or DIC under 38 USC 1318 was granted, ensure entitlement to Chapter 35/DEA was considered. |  |

**Part 2 – Renouncement**

**Directions**: Read each scenario and determine if the statement is correct or incorrect. Answer each scenario with a (Y) for Yes or (N) for No.

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| **Scenario** | **Y/N** |
| Will VA apportion benefits to a dependent as a convenience on the part of a beneficiary? |  |
| Will the renouncement of DIC by one beneficiary increase the rate payable to any other beneficiary in the same class? |  |
| You received an application from Kathy Veteran’s parents for PDIC, and it was filed within one year after the date that VA received a renouncement of the benefit, should the application be treated as an original application? |  |
| You received an application from Sam Veteran’s parents for PDIC, which was filed within one year after the date that VA received a renouncement of the benefit, are benefits payable and if so, should they be payable as if the renouncement had not occurred? |  |
| Laura, a surviving spouse renounced DIC on March 20th, 2022, you noticed that Tommy, is the Veteran’s 14-year-old dependent child. Will the renouncement of DIC by the surviving spouse serve to vest title to DIC for Tommy? |  |
| GIVERS, the POA for Hank Veteran submitted a request for renouncement on January 18th, 2023. The POA has signed and submitted the request to your office. Should you accept the request? |  |
| If a renouncement request indicates a change in dependency, would you process the claim as a dependency adjustment under EP 130? |  |