

March 25, 2022

**RESCISSION OF VHA DIRECTIVE 1225, PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND  
REHABILITATION OUTCOMES FOR INPATIENT REHABILITATION UNITS**

1. By direction of the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration (VHA), VHA Directive 1225, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Outcomes for Inpatient Rehabilitation Units, dated February 8, 2017, is rescinded.
2. On July 31, 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced they were removing Functional Independence Measure (FIM™) Instrument and Associated Function Modifiers from the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) - Patient Assessment Instrument (PAI) and transitioning to section GG of the IRF PAI to measure functional performance for patients with inpatient rehabilitation stays. Rescission of VHA Directive 1225 removes VA's mandate to use FIM to monitor outcomes during inpatient rehabilitation.
3. The content in the referenced VHA policy document, VHA Directive 1225 has been replaced in whole or in part by VHA Directive 1170.03, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Service, dated November 5, 2019 and highlighted in Appendix G, Outcomes for Inpatient Rehabilitation Units. Inpatient rehabilitation outcomes must still be monitored locally but can now include the Functional Independence Measure (FIM™) through the Functional Status and Outcomes Database (FSOD) or section GG found within both the Resident Assessment Instrument – Minimum Data Set (RAI-MDS) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility-Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI).
4. Procedural guidance can be found on VHA's Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Data References SharePoint site at:  
<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHARehab/Data%20References/Forms/AllItems.aspx?viewpath=%2Fsites%2FVHARehab%2FData%20References%2FForms%2FAllItems%2Easpx>. **NOTE:** *This is an internal VA website that is not available to the public.*
5. All inquiries concerning this action should be addressed to the Office of Rehabilitation and Prosthetic Services (12RPS) at 202-461-7444 or [VHAPMRSProgramOfficeHelp@va.gov](mailto:VHAPMRSProgramOfficeHelp@va.gov).
6. This VHA notice will expire and be archived on March 31, 2022. However, the rescission information will remain in effect.

**BY DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE  
UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH:**

/s/ Beth Taylor, DHA, RN, FAAN, NEA-BC  
Assistant Under Secretary for Health  
for Patient Care Services/CNO

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