



## **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS IN UC AND ESA AND CONSULTATIONS IN PIP**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This memo gives guidance on changes introduced by the Social Security (Claims and Payments, Employment and Support Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Universal Credit) (Telephone and Video Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2021. The regulations come into force on 25.3.21<sup>1</sup>.

*1. SS (C&P, ESA, PIP & UC) (Telephone & Video Assessment) (Amendment) Regs.; reg 1(1)*

### **BACKGROUND**

2. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic claimants with health conditions and/or disabilities applying for UC, PIP and ESA were required, in most circumstances, to attend a face-to-face medical examination (UC/ESA) or consultation (PIP). The regulations confirm that medical examinations and consultations can be undertaken through a number of channels.

### **UC**

3. For UC, the amendments coming into force on 25.3.21 confirm that medical examinations conducted by a HCP approved by the Secretary of State for the



purpose of determining whether the claimant has LCW or LCWRA, may be conducted in person, by telephone or by video<sup>1</sup>.

*1 UC regs, reg 44(1)*

## **PIP**

4. For PIP, the amendments coming into force on 25.3.21 confirm that consultations conducted by a person approved by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining whether the claimant has limited or severely limited ability to carry out daily living or mobility activities, may be conducted in person, by telephone or by video<sup>1</sup>.

*1 SS (PIP) Regs, reg 9(1)*

## **ESA**

5. For ESA, the amendments coming into force on 25.3.21 confirm that medical examinations conducted by a HCP approved by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining whether the claimant has LCW<sup>1</sup> or LCWRA<sup>2</sup>, may be conducted in person, by telephone or by video.

*1 ESA regs 13, reg 19(1); 2 reg 35(1)*

## **ANNOTATIONS**

Please annotate the number of this memo (ADM Memo 04/21) against the following ADM paragraphs:

G1105, U2021, U2176, U2480, U2755, P2006

## **CONTACTS**

If you have any queries about this memo, please write to Decision Making and Appeals (DMA) Leeds, 3E zone E, Quarry House, Leeds. Existing arrangements for such referrals should be followed, as set out in – Memo [7/1.9](#) Requesting case guidance from DMA Leeds for all benefits.

DMA Leeds: March 2021

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