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**NPDS**

<b>EDP ( NPDS ) INSTRUCTION No. 96</b>	<b>DATED 08/08/2007</b>
<b>LAST EDP ( NPDS ) INSTRUCTION No. 95</b>	<b>DATED 05/02/2007</b>

**Subject: Change of option for drawl of Medical Allowance on switching over to new scheme under ECHS**

**Reference: HQrs. EDP Instruction Order No 77 dated 21-06-2001**

***Summary:-***

- 1. Introduction of new code for Pensioners under ECHS Scheme.*
- 2. Merging of Disability Pension on revision of pension.*
- 3. Introduction of new pentypes for Pensioners drawing Special Pension & for TA Pensioners.*
- 4. Introduction of new code for Colonel T.S.*

1. In the above cited instruction order, the detailed procedure has been intimated to all concerned regarding the grant of Fixed Medical Allowance. Now, on receipt of Govt. Order for pensioners opting for ECHS Scheme, RNPDS Software has been modified accordingly for incorporation of features of this scheme.

1.1 Under the ECHS Scheme, there is no option clause for pensioners. If a pensioner has opted for ECHS facilities, he could not exercise any other option during his life time in favour of drawing Medical Allowance. In other words, option, once given for availing ECHS Facilities, cannot be withdrawn subsequently for grant of medical allowance. Hence, opting for ECHS Facilities may not be treated as "option" under medical allowance because it is switching over to new Scheme introduced by the Govt. wherein pensioners will not draw Rs. 100/- as medical allowance.

1.2 However, ECHS scheme is partially applicable for the DSC Pensioners. If a person is in receipt of only one pension for having served in DSC, he is not eligible for Ex-serviceman status and hence, he is not eligible to join ECHS. The option exercised by the DSC Pensioner can be, therefore, declared as null & void and Fixed Medical Allowance may be restored by the PDA. The arrears of Fixed Medical Allowance is also payable. Hence, some DSC pensioners are not entitled for the ECHS Facilities. These

pensioners, therefore, are continued to be governed by the existing Rules under Fixed Medical Allowance.

1.3 In the existing system, DPDOs are to propose following flags under Trans-Code 21 for incorporation of option for Medical Allowance in the RNPDS Masters:

- “Y” where Medical Allowance is to be given.
- “N” where Medical Allowance is not to be given.
- “M” where life time option is used in favour of drawing medical allowance.
- “H” where life time option is used in favour of availing CGHS Facilities.

1.4 It has been decided to introduce one more flag under Trans Code 21 for the pensioners opting for ECHS Scheme. **All the DPDOs will propose “E” flag under Trans-Code 21 for the pensioners opting for ECHS.** This option, once exercised, will be treated as final option and could not be changed subsequently by operation of Trans-Code 21. All the DPDOs should propose corrections under Trans-Code 21 giving Flag as “E” for the cases, which have already been opted for ECHS and have their master updated with any of the four flags mentioned in Para 1.3 above.

1.5 However, out of ignorance of rule, some DPDO have proposed “H” under trans-Code 21 for discontinuance of Medical Allowance for all DSC Pensioners opted for ECHS Pensioners instead of special category of DSC Pensioners. To enable such pensioners to revert back to draw medical allowance, suitable provisions are made in the RNPDS Software. This provision is made for the DSC Pensioners only and will be operative for next two months. It will be withdrawn thereafter.

1.6 It is the responsibility of the DPDO to verify whether a DSC Pensioner is of the status of Ex-Serviceman or not before allowing any correction for change of scheme from FMA to ECHS (as per Para 1.2 above).

2. It has been observed that several DPDOs have doubt over the treatment of disability element, when pension (of a pensioner drawing disability pension) is revised under the Govt. orders on improvement in pension through either PD1R1PREV or Corr. PPOs or GCF. It is clarified that

- When pension is revised through the execution of program PD1R1PREV, disability element of such pensioner will be automatically revised by the system for merging of disability element.

- When revised pension is transcribed on Corr. PPO Format for the Corr. PPO received from the PSA, only service pension is field is updated as per Corr. PPO and disability element is not merged by the system. This is because System could not differentiate whether disability element (in such case) is merged or not. It is, therefore, suggested, that all the DPDOs should verify the disability element in such case and propose correction for merging disability element along with proposing change in service pension and revision flag through Corr. PPO Sheet.
  - When pension is revised through operation of GCF, only service pension is revised by the system as in the case of Corr. PPO. The reason is same that System could not differentiate whether disability element (in such case) is merged or not It is, therefore, suggested, that all the DPDOs should verify the disability element in such case and propose correction for merging disability element along with proposing change in service pension and revision flag through GCF Sheet.
3. It is also observed that DPDOs are proposing changes in the DA-Flag through GCF without proposing change in the Ex-Gratia column for discontinuation. It is, therefore, clarified that Ex-Gratia in respect of all cases having “X” Flag will, automatically, be stopped by the System from August 2007 onwards.
4. During the implementation of Govt. Orders on Improvement in Pension, two new pentypes have been introduced. These are
- SPP - For Pensioners granted Special Pension
  - TAA – For Territorial Army Pensioners
- RNPDS Software has already been modified and in use for these pension types.
5. The PCDA(P) Allahabad has introduced a new rank Colonel (TS) in Army, Captain (TS) in Navy and Group Captain (TS) in AirForce. For these newly introduced ranks, rank code “S” is introduced in the RNPDS System. Software has been amended accordingly.

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