

## ***Income Verification Match (IVM)***

### **Overview**

The Income Verification Match (IVM) module is designed to extract patient-reported Means Test data and transmit it to the Health Eligibility Center (HEC) located in Atlanta, Georgia. IVM allows Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to accurately assess a patient's eligibility for health care when the eligibility criteria is income-based.

IVM electronically transfers patient income and demographic data for eligible veterans whose VA health care is based on income and for whom a Means Test has been completed. It also sends automatic updates if pertinent patient data is edited at the medical center.

As part of this process HEC compares the extracted data with earned and unearned income data retrieved from Social Security Administration (SSA) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Patients with reported income in the mandatory category, but whose actual income has been proven to be above that level, will have their eligibility for health care changed to the discretionary category and are subject to back billing.

The HEC sends the updated demographic and insurance information to the medical facilities for upload. The IVM module allows the HEC data to be compared with locally collected data and selectively uploaded. An invoice is then generated by MCCR to insurance companies for patients who had not previously reported health insurance coverage. Updated and verified income information from the HEC is automatically uploaded upon receipt at each VA facility, which updates the veteran's eligibility for health care and creates co-payment charges for previous episodes of care.

The software provides inquiries and reports which track all IVM activity.

### **Features**

- Transmits data for basic demographics, next-of-kin, income, temporary address, eligibility, guardian, and employer information to the HEC for patients who meet the IVM criteria. Automatically transmits an updated message if this information is changed.
- Allows the HEC to query the medical facility for the most up-to-date patient information.
- Allows updated demographic and insurance information from the HEC to be uploaded into the patient's record.
- Automatically loads updated income information from the HEC and updates the veteran's eligibility for health care.
- Allows generation of status inquiries, statistical Means Test, and data transmission reports.