

Minutes: OD Low Vision Workgroup
Date: Monday, December 21, 2015
4-4:30 PM ET

Call participants: Karen Brahm, Lisa Chan-Oconnell, Greg Hopkins, Tim Morand, Debbie Hettler, Olga Whitman, Barbara Hetrick, Danielle Wilhelm, John Dziadul, Shannon Stone, and Candice Law.

1. Taxonomy code - this is attached to your National provider number. In order to have a low vision optometrist taxonomy assigned at the VA, you may need to have this taxonomy attached to your NPI as well. (Each VA is different but the OD's that have been attempting to change to this designation have had to attach the taxonomy to their NPI).
2. Person class list – Lisa and Karen are still working on contacting ODs on the Productivity Data Profile report to confirm that those doctors listed are mapped correctly (>50% low vision = low vision person class 060802). This is a needed step to clean up the physician productivity report.
3. Follow up appts - some clinics are offering a phone follow up to check in with pts after the initial LV appt.
4. Prosthetics/logistics
 - a. Some clinics are having trouble getting equipment replaced once issued as limits are being placed on the amt of devices that are allowed to be kept in the clinics. Some prosthetics departments are switching “stock items” over to logistics. Logistics may place limits on the numbers and amounts of stock items being ordered. Discussions regarding this is starting to occur at the Harbor. Other facilities may have already made the switch or will be switched in the future.
5. Low vision exam template - The template is available. If you are interested in using the template, please send an email to Karen (Karen.Brahm2@va.gov) with your facility's CAC's vista e-mail address. CACs at individual facilities will be able make adjustments to the template as needed. The best way to send the template is through an exchange message to CACs at the requesting sites through their VISTA email address.

Reminder: Minutes from past calls are posted on the low vision SharePoint site. If you'd like access to this site, please e-mail Lisa: Lisa.Chan-OConnell@va.gov and she will send you a link.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!

Next Low Vision Conference Call: Feb 29, 2016- VANTS 800-767-1750 Access code 94706