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Cold War Patriots is a division of Professional Case Management and not affiliated with the U.S. Department of Labor.

## DEADLINE REMOVED! COVID-19 UPDATE FROM THE U.S. DOL

### *Opening the Door for Enhanced Health and Financial Benefits for Nuclear Weapons and Uranium Workers*

#### WHAT HAS CHANGED?

The Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC) now includes COVID-19 as a presumptive, consequential illness, as now reflected in version 7 of the U.S. DOL Procedure Manual. A consequential illness is an illness or injury that arises because of a previously approved condition.

If you have been approved for an occupational illness that reasonably correlates to any disease the CDC has determined to be associated with severe COVID-19, and you have been diagnosed with Covid-19, you may be eligible for monetary compensation and enhanced medical benefits. Some examples of illnesses that may qualify include:

- ★ Cancers
- ★ Chronic lung disease such as COPD or asthma
- ★ Chronic kidney disease
- ★ Chronic liver disease
- ★ Heart conditions
- ★ Weakened immune systems
- ★ Organ or stem cell transplants
- ★ Diabetes
- ★ Neurological diseases

#### IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAVE DEEOICP BENEFITS AND CONTRACTED COVID-19, TAKE ACTION NOW.

**Call 866.492.8295 or visit [coldwarpatriots.org/c19news](https://coldwarpatriots.org/c19news).  
We can walk you through the steps to add COVID-19 as a  
consequential condition.**

# PCM Regional Director Spotlight



## **JESSICA BEIL | Regional Director, Colorado**

I grew up in Charles City, Iowa and became a Registered Nurse in 2001. As a child, my family always commented on how I loved to help others, so it only made sense that I became a nurse! Before joining PCM I worked as a homecare nurse in the Midwest, including the esteemed Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. In 2009, I began my journey of caring for nuclear weapons and uranium workers in their homes. There is a definite sense of pride which comes from working at PCM. I have always felt a sense of loyalty to the workers and providing in-home care to them brings me happiness and satisfaction. PCM operates with integrity and doing the right thing. I am excited to be working with the best team in the business!



## **MICHALENE OATES | Regional Director, Indiana**

I began my career as a Case Manager with PCM in June 2016. For six years I cared directly for nuclear weapons workers in Michigan, Northwest Ohio, and the greater Columbus area. In 2022 I had the opportunity to become the Regional Director for Western Ohio and Indiana, and now work directly with the wonderful and capable team of nurses who care for workers like you. When I first started with PCM, I was unfamiliar with the U.S. DOL program and the number of people that were affected by working at the nuclear weapons and uranium facilities during the cold war. It is now a passion and goal of mine to reach as many workers as possible and assist them in staying in their homes!



## **Outreach Help Center Spotlight**



## **KEN PITT | Outreach Help Center Specialist Former Rocky Flats Worker**

I grew up during the Cold War, people who didn't live through it have no idea how terrifying it was. I didn't realize my family lived a few miles from the Rocky Flats site, I'm sure I knew some workers. Little did I know one day I would work there too! I learned over time the reason we did not go to war was because of those who worked in the nuclear weapons sites. I feel proud to be an American, to have worked at Rocky Flats, and to now serve workers as an employee of PCM. To be a part of the Outreach Help Center for a company whose main goal is to support these honorable workers is so rewarding. If I could address Rocky Flats workers now, I would say, "Thank you for protecting our nation."



# Outreach Spotlight



**CASSEY BRODERICK**  
**South Carolina**

My name is Cassey and I have worked for Professional Case Management (PCM) and Cold War Patriots (CWP) since 2019. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to create relationships with local healthcare providers, and in my role at PCM, I continue to visit with those providers to make sure their patients who have a U.S. DOL white medical benefits card receive the benefits they have earned.

If I have not already had the pleasure of meeting you at the several community events we host throughout the year, please join us! I am very passionate about helping Savannah River Site (SRS) workers navigate the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP). Like many in my community, I have family who worked at SRS, including my husband and father-in-law.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to all the current and former nuclear weapons and uranium workers for your service to this country!



**MARC SHANNON**  
**Washington**

My name is Marc and I've been with PCM since 2020. I was born and raised in Richland, WA and moved back in 2017. I am passionate about the work I perform because I know the EEOICP benefits make a tremendous impact on workers.

I have countless friends and family who worked at Hanford and know many who still do! My father and father-in-law are both former workers and receive in-home care services from PCM. My father considers his contributions at Hanford as significant as his time with the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. The Hanford site produced 74 million tons of plutonium, roughly two-thirds of our nation's stockpile. At Hanford, the weapons production reactors were decommissioned at the end of the Cold War, and the Hanford site became the focus of the nation's largest environmental cleanup.

I'm honored to work for PCM and advocate for current and former Hanford workers. I believe the help CWP and PCM provides across the country to all nuclear weapons and uranium workers is extremely important. And I know firsthand it's very much appreciated by our PCM clients and CWP members!



# Cold War Patriots Events

Cold War Patriots (CWP) is looking forward to another year of events! Read below for the types of events we will be hosting this year! Safety measures will be followed at all CWP events. For those unable to join us, we will continue to offer Virtual Events.



## Benefits Review Events

If you joined us last year, you may have attended a Benefits Review. At these events, we invite you to stop by to speak with an EEOICP and RECA expert and Advocates. During these one-on-one sessions, we sit down with you to discuss your specific needs.



## Town Hall Events

Town Halls have a morning and an afternoon meeting featuring a custom presentation about the benefits you are eligible for. During the meeting you'll have time to speak directly with EEOICP and RECA experts, Advocates, the Resource Center, and reconnect with your fellow workers.



## Drive By Events

Workers are invited to stop by, pick up a special gift and reconnect with old friends. Past giveaway items included pies from local bakeries, stainless steel BBQ grill sets, and game day cooler bags!



## Doc Talk Events

If you have your U.S. DOL white medical benefits card, join us for lunch to hear directly from an Impairment Doctor from PCM Impairments about the additional benefits you are eligible for. You'll have a chance to speak directly with the Impairment Doctor.

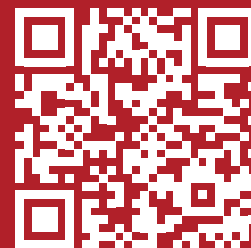


## Virtual Events

We will continue hosting a variety of 25 – 50 minute events you can watch from the comfort of your home, including Town Halls, Doc Talks, and Respiratory Health Talks.

## For Date, Time, & Event Locations

Visit the CWP Events Page, by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone, or give us a call at **1.877.335.0779**



Be sure to also check your emails and mailbox for official invitations throughout the year.

# Workers Like You, Receiving Compassionate Care



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*“Since I started receiving in-home health care, PCM has absorbed many of my medical responsibilities which allows my family and myself more independence.”*

Addison, former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant worker of 10 years, PCM client since 2019

At Professional Case Management (PCM) it is our honor to provide the best possible care in the best possible place—your home. Our Nurses and Caregivers follow the core principles of focus, experience, quality, and compassion to provide in-home care services with the highest standards and ethics in the industry. As a PCM client, no matter the level of care you receive, at the heart of your health care team is your Registered Nurse (RN) Case Manager, who collaborates with your physicians, other health care professionals, and your family to develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan of care for you.

PCM’s dedicated and knowledgeable health care team can deliver a full range of services; from monthly visits to extensive, round-the-clock continuous care.

Every nuclear weapons or uranium worker and their family can benefit right now from the care PCM provides. Having that care in place now, even at a very modest level, can provide for the best possible outcomes in managing your illnesses.

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*“PCM has been a bright spot in my medical journey. My Case Manager and Caregivers are excellent. I am grateful for their support & care!”*



Linda,  
former Savannah River Site worker of 11 years, PCM client since 2015

“

*“My husband’s Case Manager is on top of everything! She is always teaching me tricks and tips and sharing knowledge so I can help my husband James. We know that PCM is there whenever we need them.”*

Terry, wife to James,  
former Sandia National Labs worker of 24 years and PCM client since 2020



*“Every PCM Case Manager goes above and beyond to provide service to their clients. They don’t see it as anything special or out of the ordinary, it is just who they are!”*

“



Judy,  
PCM Regional Director in Kentucky

# Ask the Respiratory Therapist

By Kelly Garber, Certified Respiratory Therapist

## 1. Why do I (or a loved one) need to use oxygen?

A person might be prescribed oxygen if their body is not getting enough oxygen on its own. This can be due to a range of medical conditions including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pneumonia, heart failure, or other heart and lung conditions. In these cases, oxygen therapy may help improve symptoms like shortness of breath and increase their overall well-being. It is important to use oxygen exactly as prescribed.



## 2. Are heavy tanks the only option when leaving the home with oxygen?

No. There are several options for portable oxygen use that are currently available.

- **Portable oxygen concentrators (POCs)** are the newest systems to hit the market. They are lightweight and easy to carry. They make oxygen from the air and provide it to the user with each breath. They are well-suited for travel but may not be adequate for those needing high levels of oxygen.
- **Oxygen cylinders** are metal tanks filled with compressed oxygen. A regulator is attached to the tank prior to use, and a setting (or liter flow) is selected. Smaller tanks can be carried, but most are pulled in a small cart. Multiple tanks may be needed for an outing and can be cumbersome to transport.
- **Liquid oxygen portables** are small cannisters filled from a larger reservoir kept in the home. While light and convenient, fewer oxygen providers offer this equipment so check with your oxygen provider for options.

## 3. Can PCM help me receive oxygen and other necessary medical equipment?

Yes! At PCM, we can assist you in receiving your Durable Medical Equipment (DME). After a physician determines the DME is medically necessary for the treatment of your accepted conditions, PCM will ensure your equipment gets delivered and set up properly. For example, recently, during a visit with a PCM client, a Case Manager noticed the client's oxygen tanks were heavy and impeding his mobility. The Case Manager worked with the PCM client's provider of choice and received a new portable oxygen concentrator. Now, the PCM client can complete his daily activities with ease and feel comfortable while out and about.

**If you have your U.S. DOL white medical benefits card, call our PCM Outreach Help Center at 1.877.335.0779 to begin receiving the medical benefits you have earned.**



# IMPAIRMENTS CORNER

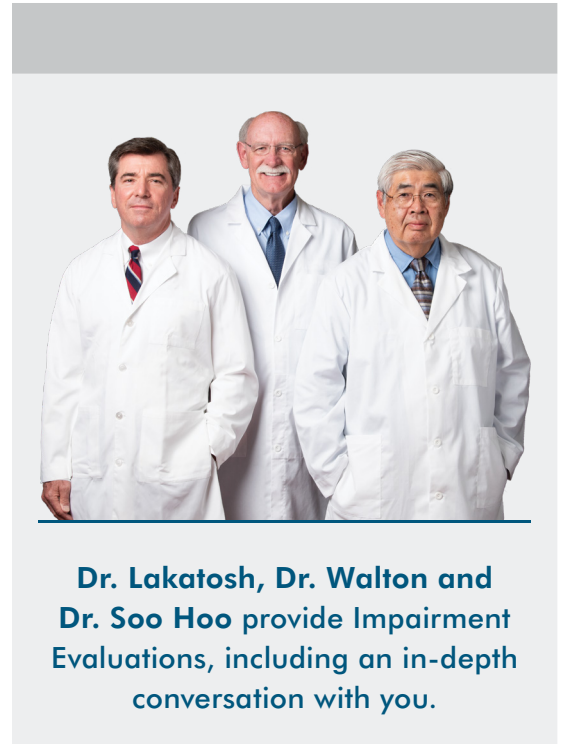
## WHAT IS AN IMPAIRMENT EVALUATION?

- A** An evaluation of your covered conditions by a specially trained Doctor
- B** An opportunity to receive monetary compensation
- C** A great service offered by PCM
- D** All the above

## THE ANSWER? ALL THE ABOVE!

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) white medical benefits card holders can access a top-notch Impairment doctor to review their covered conditions to determine their Impairment rating. This rating is a calculated percentage of whole-body impairment caused by work-related exposures. PCM Impairments has three of the most experienced doctors in the industry.

You might have heard that getting an Impairment Evaluation can be complicated. Who wants to be bothered with forms, paperwork, and correspondence back and forth from the U.S. DOL? At PCM Impairments, we do! Let us handle all the details. We will make it as simple as possible to get authorized and evaluated. We have a team of Impairment experts who will walk you through every step, start to finish. We'll keep track of the details and keep you informed along the way.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

If you have a U.S. DOL white medical benefits card and have never had an Impairment Evaluation OR if it has been two years or more since you last received compensation for an Impairment Evaluation, call today and find out how we can assist you.

**Call us today at 866.578.2580 to discuss  
your Impairment Evaluation needs.**