

## CLIENT BULLETIN

### **Social Security Administration Announces 38 New Conditions Under Its "*Compassionate Allowances*" Program That Qualify Individuals for Expedited Disability Benefit Determinations**

The Social Security Administration recently announced it was adding 38 "*Compassionate Allowances*" conditions to the 50 already approved conditions. By identifying which applicants for Social Security Disability benefits meet the criteria for a *Compassionate Allowance*, such individuals may be approved for benefits "in a matter of days rather than months and years", said the Social Security Commissioner Michael J. Asture.

*Compassionate Allowances* are a way of quickly identifying diseases and other medical conditions that invariably qualify as disabilities based on minimal objective medical information. *Compassionate Allowances* allow Social Security to quickly target these disabled individuals for Social Security Disability benefits.

Pension plan trustees may find these *Compassionate Allowances* useful in helping to "fast-track" disability requests that fall under one of the 88 *Compassionate Allowances* conditions.

The initial list of 50 *Compassionate Allowances* conditions contains 25 types of cancers and 25 rare diseases and is available by "[clicking here.](#)"

The expanded list of 38 new conditions expands the scope of allowances to include conditions like early onset Alzheimer's disease and is available by "[clicking here.](#)"

The Social Security *Compassionate Allowances* webpage is located at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances/>. Additional information about how *Compassionate Allowances* are processed is available at: <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0423022000!opendocument>.

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