Claim filed (online, paper, in-person) → Field Office Step 1 → HIT/other MER requested → HIT and applicant-supplied MER upload to the electronic folder → DDS Disability Examiner reviews evidence supplied → The adjudicative team may make a determination → Requests new evidence from sources → Contacts claimant for status of impairment → Orders a consultative exam

**Abbreviations:**
- HIT = Health Information Technology
- MER = Medical Evidence of Record
- DDS = Disability Determination Services