

Session 31: Impact of FASB Targeted Improvements (ASU 2018-12) on VA/FIA Product Development and In-force Management

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Impact of FASB Targeted Improvements on VA/FIA Product Development

Kenneth Birk, FSA, CERA, MAAA

Global Atlantic Financial Group

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Poll: How would you best describe your role in your organization?



Agenda

- FASB Long Duration Targeted Improvement Changes & Implications
- Market Risk Benefit (MRB) Definition, Scope & Measurement
- VA/FIA Pricing & Product Development Considerations







FASB Long Duration Targeted Improvement Changes & Implications





What Will Change? SCOPE AREA OF FOCUS TARGET IMPROVEMENT **Original assumptions** Assumptions periodically reviewed remain "locked" or updated, increasing relevance Liability for future SPIA/DIA. policy benefits TERM, WL, LTC Discount rate is the Discount rate is upper-medium grade (low-credit-risk) insurer's expected ⇒ investment yield fixed-income instrument yield Potential for More Volatility FIA GMxB, Market risk Two measurement One measurement model, models improving uniformity benefits VA GMxB for some products Insurance Accrual Fair Value (increased exposure to market risk) Fair Value ALL LONG Deferred DURATION Simplified amortization, Complex amortization increasing understandability acquisition costs CONTRACTS (including VA/FIA) No DAC offset to market risk ALL LONG DURATION Disclosures Limited disclosures Enhanced disclosures CONTRACTS (including VA/FIA) Effective 1/1/2021 for Public Companies Effective 1/1/2022 for Other Entities

FASB 'Long Duration Targeted Improvements' Accounting Update



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General Annuity Summary of Accounting Impacts

For VA GMDB/GMIB & FIA GMxB, the key issue is potentially lower earnings, with more balance sheet and earnings volatility.

	Area	Opening Eq	uity	Profit Emergence	Earnings Volatility	OCI/Equity Volatility
	FIA without GMxB	Increase		Decelerated	Slightly decreased	Increase
		Due to removal of D. adjustmen		DAC no longer accretes with interest	DAC <i>no longer subject to</i> <i>retrospective unlocking</i> and volatility of assumption updates	Shadow DAC no longer offsets movement in associated AFS assets
	VA & FIA with	Decrease		Slower	Increase	Increase
	Guaranteed Minimum Benefits (GMxBs)	Current SOP 03-1 t will move to fair increasing the li	value,	Fair value approach will <i>build- up liabilities earlier</i> than the SOP 03-1 approach	Fair value liabilities tend to be <i>more volatile</i> than SOP 03-1 calculations	Fair value liabilities tend to be <i>more volatile</i> than SOP 03-1 calculations
		Change		FIA with GMxB; VA	with GMDB/GMIB	
		Current		ole liability Rates NOT marked-to-market (liab th includes risk premiums such as e		
S	ource: PwC	Future	- Discount	Volatile liability Rates marked-to-market (risk free th based on forward swaps	rate)	



Summary of GMxB Changes

- GMxB treatment under SOP 03-1 & FAS 157 is being replaced with a new concept called Market Risk Benefits
- Lifetime profits will be the same, but the emergence of profits will be slower and more volatile

GMxB	Current GAAP	New GAAP
GIVIXD	Current GAAP	New GAAP
VA GMWB/GLWB	 Typically FAS 157 for non-lifetime GMWBs Diversity in practice exists for lifetime GMWBs Full FAS 157 Hybrid FAS 157/SOP 03-1 	 Market Risk Benefit (MRB) To be measured at Fair Value Changes in fair value flow through P/L, except changes
VA GMAB	FAS 157	in instrument specific credit risk recognized in Other
VA GMIB	Typically SOP 03-1FAS 157 if benefit is not settled	Comprehensive IncomeIf a contract contains multiple
VA GMDB	SOP 03-1Payment is a result of an identifiable insurable event	MRB, those MRBs shall be bundled together as a single compound market risk benefit
FIA GMxB	Typically SOP 03-1	





Source: PwC





MRB Definition, Scope & Measurement





Market Risk Benefit – Definition & Scope

Market Risk Benefit definition (ASC 944-40-25-25C): A contract or contract feature that both provides protection to the contract holder from other-than-nominal capital market risk and exposes the insurance entity to other-thannominal capital market risk.

ASC 944-40-25-25C:

• Protection refers to the transfer of a loss in, or shortfall (that is, the difference between the account value and the benefit amount) of the contract holder's account balance from the contract holder to the insurance entity, with such transfer exposing the insurance entity to capital market risk that would otherwise have been borne by the contract holder.

• Protection does not include the death benefit component of a life insurance contract, but would apply to death benefit coverage on an investment or annuity contract.

• Nominal risk is a risk of insignificant amount or remote probability of occurring. Presumed other-than-nominal if benefit would vary more than an insignificant amount in response to capital market volatility.



Is the company providing the policyholder with market risk protection?

Is the protection other-than-nominal?

Considerations: Shortfall & Quantification of Shortfall





Market Risk Benefits - Scope

Benefit Feature	Long Duration Contract?	Benefit Paid from Account Value?	Benefit Payment Can Exceed Account Value?	Account Value Shortfall Affected by the Market	MRB?
VA GMxB	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	MRB
FIA Index Crediting	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	Not MRB
FIA GMxB	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	MRB
Minimum general account interest rate guarantee	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	Not MRB
VUL DB	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	Not MRB
UL NLG	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	Not MRB
Annuity Purchase Guarantees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	MRB



Market Risk Benefits - Measurement

Ascribed fee (or Attributed Fee) method for valuing GMxBs in variable annuity:

• Common approach used in practice

At inception:

- Estimate fair value of expected claims consistent with capital market valuations (e.g. stochastic risk neutral scenarios)
- Assume that total dollars of GMxB fees equal the fair value of expected claims at inception
- As Ascribed Fee is set and locked at "inception" equal to the PV of claims over the PV of fee base
- MRB Fair Value = PV Claims Ascribed Fee * PV Fee Base
- MRB fair value = Fair value expected future claims Fair value ascribed (or attributed) fees
- MRB fair value = 0 at inception
- Fair Value of ascribed (or attributed) fees Fair Value of claims = 0
- Fair Value of ascribed (or attributed) fees = Fair Value of claims

Subsequent accounting:

- Apply 'locked in' GMxB ascribed (or attributed) fee to each period's PV total expected fee base to determine the PV of ascribed (or attributed) fees
- Ascribed (or attributed) fee may differ from contractual fee for GMxB benefit, but cannot exceed total contract fees collectible or be less than zero

Derecognition:

- Compare MRB to the liability
- If gain, deferred profit liability posted
- If loss, recognize immediately
- Other comprehensive income is released





Market Risk Benefits - Measurement

- Ascribed (or Attributed) fee method is currently most commonly used among VA carriers with GMxB embedded derivatives
 - Possibility of no fees for the FIA or not enough for ascribed (or attributed fee) method
 - Potential of positive MRB at issue



How do you account for multiple market risk benefits within one contract?

- Analyze each MRB separately against scope criteria
- Separate compound MRB features from host
- Compound MRB = 1 unit of account
 - Policyholder behavior assumptions need to be relevant to the combined contract
 - Market consistent assumptions such as economic volatility need to be consistent with expectations for the combined contract





Pricing & Product Development Considerations





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Poll: Do you have GAAP pricing targets when developing VA/FIA?





Market Risk Benefits - Pricing Considerations

Scenarios

- Do you have desired risk neutral scenario generators and system modeling capabilities?
- How many scenarios are adequate for pricing? (system constraints or first principles)

Calculations

How will **caps and fees be projected** in the risk neutral environment?

Unit of Account

• At what level of granularity is the calculation done for pricing (vs. valuation)?

Hedging

- Is the cost of hedging accounted for in the pricing process and is it modeled explicitly?
- Is there a **change in hedging strategy**? (Possible increased cost of hedging and increased breakage possible due to more benefits being hedged)
- How does a potential change in hedging strategy impact your GAAP pricing? Statutory pricing?



Market Risk Benefits - Pricing Considerations

Modeling Considerations and Simplifications

- What modifications will be necessary for the current models?
- How is pricing different from valuation?
- How precise does the reserve component need to be to reasonably capture profitability?
- What nuances can be simplified for the pricing model? What is the impact of the simplifications?
- How frequently should you run stochastic models? Can you live with approximations for some iterative steps?

Assumptions

- Do you need to develop new assumption sets for market risk benefits? (e.g. Combined MRBs)
 - Identify risk factors needed to be **stochastically modeled** (dynamic lapses, dynamic withdrawals, caps, allocation transfers)
 - Sensitivity testing (the sensitivity to policyholder assumptions could be increased)
 - Regular review of adequateness

Targets

- Do pricing targets need to be updated?
- Do downside targets need to be updated?
- What risk limits/tolerances should your pricing consider?
- How does this fit into the **capital optimization** framework?



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Poll: Do you expect the MRB classification to drive any changes to your pricing targets?





Market Risk Benefits - Product Strategy/Development Considerations

Product Mix	 Appetite for market risk exposure Proportion of business permitted to exposure
Product Design	Extent of guaranteed benefitsAdjustments based on utilization
Product Actions	 Reevaluate product & features Reprice products Account for cost of hedging / model it explicitly Continue without changes; economics of business does not change
Risk Considerations	 Economic risk limits Risk free rates and fund performance drive reserves There is NO perfect hedge



Live Content Slide

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Poll: Do you expect the MRB classification to drive any changes to your products?





Concluding Thoughts

Key Potential Changes:

- Income statement and reserve balances may become more volatile
- Increased sensitivity to equity and rates for GMxB's

Key Considerations:

- Pricing/Product engagement with Valuation and Risk on accounting policy decisions, hedging strategy, scenarios, and calculation decisions
- Pricing considerations include modeling updates/simplifications, assumptions, inclusion of hedging and review of pricing targets
- Product development considerations include establishing clear risk tolerances, product mix considerations, product feature sensitivity, hedge costs and iteration toward risk appropriate offerings











Session 31 – Impact of FASB Long Duration Targeted Improvements on VA/FIA Inforce Management

2019 SOA Life and Annuity Symposium Tampa, May 20, 2019

Yuan Tao FSA, MAAA, CFA



FASB Long Duration Targeted Improvements (LDTI) What are the key considerations for inforce management?



- Reinsurance
- M&A

1 Infrastructure

What will be the infrastructure development needs for a typical VA line?

 Retrospective determination of attributable fees poses data challenges for MRB
 Existing projection model will continue to be used with easy modification
Reporting generally in place
 Companies that consider GAAP in their hedge objectives will need updates



VA GAAP valuation process changes relatively easy; potential changes to hedging will be considered by all market participants

What will be the infrastructure development needs for a typical FIA line?

	LDTI Readiness	Comments
Data		 Retrospective determination of attributable fees poses data challenges for MRB
Actuarial models		 More significant model development need due to MRB
Reporting tools	•	 Reporting generally in place, just require modification for the shifts to MRB's
ALM / Hedging infrastructure		 Dynamic hedging currently not typical for FIA's and this may need to change for MRB



Typical FIA lines need to make large scale changes to seriatim valuation systems, as well as other infrastructure due to changes in DAC and living benefits

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2 Hedging

VA hedging – current state Existing accounting frameworks are mismatched and discourage comprehensive, fair value-based hedging

Typical VA market sensitivity, by valuation lens Increase in liability value for different market shocks



- Per unit of implied volatility increase
- Per unit of equity decline

Under the current GAAP and statutory frameworks, insurers cannot hedge all valuation lenses effectively at the same time given their vastly different risk characteristics

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Increase in liability value

VA hedging – post-reform LDTI, along with NAIC reform, will help align VA valuation lenses and encourages more fair value-based hedging

Market sensitivity of liability valuation Across different valuation frameworks



Many VA writers will expand hedging because GAAP and SAP are both closer to "true" fair value.

FIA hedging – current state

Existing accounting frameworks lack market sensitivity for FIA GLWB and therefore discourage comprehensive, fair value-based hedging

Typical FIA GLWB market sensitivity, by valuation lens Increase in liability value for different market shocks



Per unit of equity decline

FIA GLWB has typically not been hedged by the industry due to lack of market sensitivity in valuations

Increase in liability value

FIA hedging – post-reform LDTI creates divergence in the market-sensitivity between the GAAP market risk benefit reserve and the statutory liability



Across different valuation frameworks



FIA GLWB will become more expensive for carriers to manage if carriers decide to hedge their GAAP earnings

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3 Balance sheet management

Potential M&A and reinsurance Private non-GAAP entities may gain a significant advantage over GAAP filers in taking on VA and FIA blocks with guarantees



Questions

