

(g) This section applies to all claims in which a Notice of Disagreement is filed on or after June 1, 2001.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5109A and 7105(d))

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## PART 4—SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES

### Subpart A—General Policy in Rating

#### Sec.

- 4.1 Essentials of evaluative rating.
- 4.2 Interpretation of examination reports.
- 4.3 Resolution of reasonable doubt.
- 4.6 Evaluation of evidence.
- 4.7 Higher of two evaluations.
- 4.9 Congenital or developmental defects.
- 4.10 Functional impairment.
- 4.13 Effect of change of diagnosis.
- 4.14 Avoidance of pyramiding.
- 4.15 Total disability ratings.
- 4.16 Total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of the individual.
- 4.17 Total disability ratings for pension based on unemployability and age of the individual.
- 4.17a Misconduct etiology.
- 4.18 Unemployability.
- 4.19 Age in service-connected claims.
- 4.20 Analogous ratings.
- 4.21 Application of rating schedule.
- 4.22 Rating of disabilities aggravated by active service.
- 4.23 Attitude of rating officers.
- 4.24 Correspondence.
- 4.25 Combined ratings table.
- 4.26 Bilateral factor.
- 4.27 Use of diagnostic code numbers.
- 4.28 Prestabilization rating from date of discharge from service.
- 4.29 Ratings for service-connected disabilities requiring hospital treatment or observation.
- 4.30 Convalescent ratings.
- 4.31 Zero percent evaluations.

### Subpart B—Disability Ratings

#### THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM

- 4.40 Functional loss.
- 4.41 History of injury.
- 4.42 Complete medical examination of injury cases.
- 4.43 Osteomyelitis.
- 4.44 The bones.
- 4.45 The joints.
- 4.46 Accurate measurement.
- 4.47–4.54 [Reserved]
- 4.55 Principles of combined ratings for muscle injuries.
- 4.56 Evaluation of muscle disabilities.

- 4.57 Static foot deformities.
- 4.58 Arthritis due to strain.
- 4.59 Painful motion.
- 4.60 [Reserved]
- 4.61 Examination.
- 4.62 Circulatory disturbances.
- 4.63 Loss of use of hand or foot.
- 4.64 Loss of use of both buttocks.
- 4.65 [Reserved]
- 4.66 Sacroiliac joint.
- 4.67 Pelvic bones.
- 4.68 Amputation rule.
- 4.69 Dominant hand.
- 4.70 Inadequate examinations.
- 4.71 Measurement of ankylosis and joint motion.
- 4.71a Schedule of ratings—musculoskeletal system.
- 4.72 [Reserved]
- 4.73 Schedule of ratings—muscle injuries.

#### THE ORGANS OF SPECIAL SENSE

- 4.75 Examination of visual acuity.
- 4.76 Examination of field vision.
- 4.76a Computation of average concentric contraction of visual fields.
- 4.77 Examination of muscle function.
- 4.78 Computing aggravation.
- 4.79 Loss of use of one eye, having only light perception.
- 4.80 Rating of one eye.
- 4.81–4.82 [Reserved]
- 4.83 Ratings at scheduled steps and distances.
- 4.83a Impairment of central visual acuity.
- 4.84 Differences between distant and near visual acuity.
- 4.84a Schedule of ratings—eye.

#### IMPAIRMENT OF AUDITORY ACUITY

- 4.85 Evaluation of hearing impairment.
- 4.86 Exceptional patterns of hearing impairment.
- 4.87 Schedule of ratings—ear.
- 4.87a Schedule of ratings—other sense organs.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES, IMMUNE DISORDERS AND NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCIES

- 4.88 [Reserved]
- 4.88a Chronic fatigue syndrome.
- 4.88b Schedule of ratings—infectious diseases, immune disorders and nutritional deficiencies.
- 4.88c Ratings for inactive nonpulmonary tuberculosis initially entitled after August 19, 1968.
- 4.89 Ratings for inactive nonpulmonary tuberculosis in effect on August 19, 1968.

#### THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- 4.96 Special provisions regarding evaluation of respiratory conditions.
- 4.97 Schedule of ratings—respiratory system.

## Department of Veterans Affairs

## § 4.2

### THE CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

4.100-4.103 [Reserved]

4.104 Schedule of ratings—cardiovascular system.

### THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

4.110 Ulcers.

4.111 Postgastroectomy syndromes.

4.112 Weight loss.

4.113 Coexisting abdominal conditions.

4.114 Schedule of ratings—digestive system.

### THE GENITOURINARY SYSTEM

4.115 Nephritis.

4.115a Ratings of the genitourinary system—dysfunctions.

4.115b Ratings of the genitourinary system—diagnoses.

### GYNECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND DISORDERS OF THE BREAST

4.116 Schedule of ratings—gynecological conditions and disorders of the breast.

### THE HEMIC AND LYMPHATIC SYSTEMS

4.117 Schedule of ratings—hemic and lymphatic systems.

### THE SKIN

4.118 Schedule of ratings—skin.

### THE ENDOCRINE SYSTEM

4.119 Schedule of ratings—endocrine system.

### NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND CONVULSIVE DISORDERS

4.120 Evaluations by comparison.

4.121 Identification of epilepsy.

4.122 Psychomotor epilepsy.

4.123 Neuritis, cranial or peripheral.

4.124 Neuralgia, cranial or peripheral.

4.124a Schedule of ratings—neurological conditions and convulsive disorders.

### MENTAL DISORDERS

4.125 Diagnosis of mental disorders.

4.126 Evaluation of disability from mental disorders.

4.127 Mental retardation and personality disorders.

4.128 Convalescence ratings following extended hospitalization.

4.129 Mental disorders due to traumatic stress.

4.130 Schedule of ratings—mental disorders.

### DENTAL AND ORAL CONDITIONS

4.149 [Reserved]

4.150 Schedule of ratings—dental and oral conditions.

APPENDIX A TO PART 4—TABLE OF AMENDMENTS AND EFFECTIVE DATES SINCE 1946

APPENDIX B TO PART 4—NUMERICAL INDEX OF DISABILITIES

APPENDIX C TO PART 4—ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF DISABILITIES

AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 1155, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 29 FR 6718, May 22, 1964, unless otherwise noted.

## Subpart A—General Policy in Rating

### § 4.1 Essentials of evaluative rating.

This rating schedule is primarily a guide in the evaluation of disability resulting from all types of diseases and injuries encountered as a result of or incident to military service. The percentage ratings represent as far as can practicably be determined the average impairment in earning capacity resulting from such diseases and injuries and their residual conditions in civil occupations. Generally, the degrees of disability specified are considered adequate to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses proportionate to the severity of the several grades of disability. For the application of this schedule, accurate and fully descriptive medical examinations are required, with emphasis upon the limitation of activity imposed by the disabling condition. Over a period of many years, a veteran's disability claim may require reratings in accordance with changes in laws, medical knowledge and his or her physical or mental condition. It is thus essential, both in the examination and in the evaluation of disability, that each disability be viewed in relation to its history.

[41 FR 11292, Mar. 18, 1976]

### § 4.2 Interpretation of examination reports.

Different examiners, at different times, will not describe the same disability in the same language. Features of the disability which must have persisted unchanged may be overlooked or a change for the better or worse may not be accurately appreciated or described. It is the responsibility of the rating specialist to interpret reports of examination in the light of the whole