

NEVADA DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
Workers' Compensation Section

PERMANENT WORK-RELATED MENTAL IMPAIRMENT RATING
REPORT WORK SHEET

Since the *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*, 5th Edition, does not provide a quantified method for assigning permanent impairment percentages under Chapter 14, "Mental and Behavioral Disorders," the provider shall use this form when evaluating claims accepted pursuant to NRS 616C.180.

Patient Name: _____ Date of Service: _____
Claim No.: _____ Insurer: _____

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This form should only be used to determine an impairment after the case has been found to meet all of the specific criteria for a Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Ed. (DSM-IV) diagnosis.
2. The *AMA Guides to Permanent Impairment*, 5th Edition should be consulted for guidance in determining these ratings.
3. Determination of a rating of permanent mental or behavioral impairment shall be limited to mental or behavioral disorder impairments not likely to remit with further mental health treatment.
4. Impairment ratings based on chronic pain are not applicable within the mental/behavioral domain.
5. To obtain the final overall impairment rating:
 - a. The elements to be rated are divided into four Areas of Function: Activities of Daily Living; Social Functioning; Thinking, Concentration and Judgment; and Adaptation to Stress.
 - b. Assign a rating (0-6) to each subcategory of the areas of function based on patient self-report, other sources of information, and the physician's clinical assessment. (See Category Definitions on Page 5 of this form.) Given the heavy reliance on the patient's subjective report for information in some of the ratings, the physician should give careful consideration to any corroborating evidence that might be available.
 - c. Average the two highest subcategory ratings within each Area of Function to obtain the overall category rating. For example, if the two highest scores are 2 and 5, the category score is 3.5.
 - d. To calculate the overall impairment rating, average the two highest category ratings and then, if appropriate in the case, use clinical judgment to add or subtract up to 0.5 point from the result. If the score is modified in this fashion due to clinical judgment, ***justification for doing so must be documented***. Factors influencing the physician's discretion may include the following:
 - i. Factors influencing the patient's believability, such as the presence of symptom magnification, or the presence or absence of corroborating information from psychological or neuropsychological testing;
 - ii. The extent to which medication ameliorates the effects of the condition;
 - e. Use the Category Conversion Table in these instructions to convert the final number to a percentage.
6. Include the DSM-IV diagnosis at the top of the worksheet.

The final determination must include ratings for all of the elements in each area of function, the category averages reached in each area of function, the overall average, the final assigned overall permanent impairment rating, and documentation for any divergence (± 0.5) from the calculated score.

| CATEGORY CONVERSION TABLE | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Final Score | Percentage |
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.25 | 0 |
| 0.5 | 1 |
| 0.75 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 |
| 1.25 | 2 |
| 1.5 | 3 to 4 |
| 1.75 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 to 7 |
| 2.25 | 8 to 9 |
| 2.5 | 10 to 12 |
| 2.75 | 13 to 15 |
| 3 | 16 to 18 |
| 3.25 | 19 to 21 |
| 3.5 | 22 to 23 |
| 3.75 | 24 to 25 |
| 4 | 26 to 32 |
| 4.25 | 33 to 38 |
| 4.5 | 39 to 44 |
| 4.75 | 45 to 50 |
| 5 | 51 to 56 |
| 5.25 | 57 to 62 |
| 5.5 | 63 to 68 |
| 5.75 | 69 to 75 |
| 6 | 76 to 83 |
| 6.25 | 84 to 91 |
| 6.5 | 92 to 100 |

7. If apportionment is applicable, complete a separate form calculating the pre-injury rating to be subtracted from the total current rating.
8. If there is a finding of no impairment, refer to Part V on the worksheet, if appropriate.

WORKSHEET

Patient Name _____ Date of Service: _____
Claim # _____ Insurer _____

NOTE: Determination of a rating of permanent mental or behavioral impairment shall be limited to mental or behavioral disorder impairments not likely to remit with further mental health treatment. Further, impairment ratings based on chronic pain are not applicable within the mental/behavioral domain, but are restricted to physical examination with evidence of anatomic or physiologic correlation and included within a physical impairment rating.

I. DSM-IV Diagnosis: Axis I: _____ Axis II: _____
Axis III: _____ Axis IV: _____
Axis V: _____

II. LEVELS OF PERMANENT MENTAL IMPAIRMENT

Category

0. No permanent impairment
1. Minimal Category of Permanent Impairment
2. Mild Category of Permanent Impairment
3. Moderate Category of Permanent Impairment
4. Marked Category of Permanent Impairment
5. Extreme Category of Permanent Impairment
6. Maximum Category of Permanent Impairment

III. AREAS OF FUNCTION¹ *Rate only impairments due strictly to the psychiatric condition.*

1. Activities of Daily Living, *see* 14.3a, p. 361 of *Guides*, 5th ed. and Table 1-2, p. 4 (*Guides*, 5th ed.)

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Self-care, personal hygiene (urinating, defecating, brushing teeth, combing hair, bathing, dressing oneself, eating) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Communication (writing, typing, seeing, hearing, speaking) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Physical activity (standing, sitting, reclining, walking, climbing stairs) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Sensory function (hearing, seeing, tactile feeling, tasting, smelling) NB: smell/taste 1%-5% WP, p. 262 | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Nonspecialized hand activities (grasping, lifting, tactile discrimination) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Travel (driving, riding, flying) i.e. impairments in driving, riding, flying which are generally a result of symptoms of affective or anxiety disorders | Overall Category Rating: (average of 2 highest) |
| 0 1 2 3 | Sexual function (orgasm, ejaculation, lubrication, erection) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Sleep (restful, nocturnal sleep pattern) | _____ |

2. Social Functioning *see* 14.3b, p. 362 of *Guides*, 5th ed.

- | | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Interpersonal relationships | Overall Category Rating: (average of 2 highest) |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Communicates effectively with others | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Participation in recreational activities (consider pre-injury activities of the patient) | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Manage conflicts with others--negotiate, compromise | _____ |

¹ See attached Appendix for further description of all or part of the listed areas of function.

3. Concentration, Persistence, and Pace *see* 14.3c, p. 362 of *Guides*, 5th ed.

- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Ability to perform complex or varied tasks
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Judgment
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Problem solving
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Ability to abstract or understand concepts
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Memory, immediate and remote
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Maintain attention, concentration on a specific task
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Perform simple, routine, repetitive tasks
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Comprehend/follow simple instructions

Overall Category Rating:
(average of 2 highest)

4. Deterioration or Decompensation in Complex or Worklike Settings *see* 14.3d, p. 362 of *Guides*, 5th ed.

- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Set realistic short & long term goals
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Perform activities (including work) on schedule
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Adapt to job performance requirements

Overall Category Rating:
(average of 2 highest)

IV. FINAL CALCULATIONS:

Average the two highest Area of Function ratings: _____ + _____ divided by 2 = _____

Add or subtract up to 0.5 from the completed calculation above, if appropriate, based on clinical judgment.

Justify this deviation below or attach a separate sheet: _____

Using the Category Conversion Table on page 2 of this form, convert the final number to a percentage for the overall permanent impairment rating:

**Overall Psychiatric
Permanent Impairment**

Rating _____%

OR

V. If this patient has ZERO impairment according to the above criteria and requires continuing medication for their DSM diagnosis, an impairment of 1-3% may be assigned _____%.

**IF ZERO %
PSYCHIATRIC RATING**

RATING _____%

VI. TOTAL IMPAIRMENT RATING (if applicable)
Total Whole Person *Physical* Impairment = _____%

Combined with psychiatric permanent impairment equals:

**Total Whole Person
Impairment (including
psychiatric impairment)**

_____%

Physician: _____ Date: _____
(Signature)

APPENDIX

1. Activities of Daily Living

Sexual Function: Scoring categories 4, 5 and 6 are not available because the maximum impairment allowed per the *AMA Guides* for total loss of sexual function is 20% (Table 13-21, p. 342 of the 5th edition of the *Guides*).

PERMANENT WORK-RELATED MENTAL IMPAIRMENT RATING REPORT WORK SHEET CATEGORY DEFINITION GUIDELINES

CATEGORY 0: 0% No Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis have been absent for the past month. ADLs are not affected. Functioning is at pre-injury baseline in social and work activities in all areas; no more than everyday problems.

CATEGORY 1: 1-5% Minimal Category of Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms, arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis and not likely to remit despite medical treatment, minimally impair functioning.

CATEGORY 2: 6-15% Mild Category of Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms, arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis are not likely to remit despite medical treatment, and are mildly impairing. ADLs are mildly disrupted. Functioning shows mild permanent impairment in social or work activities.

CATEGORY 3: 16-25% Moderate Category of Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms, arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis and not likely to remit despite medical treatment, are moderately impairing. ADLs are moderately disrupted. Functioning shows moderate permanent impairment. Activities sometimes need direction or supervision.

CATEGORY 4: 26-50% Marked Category of Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms, arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis and not likely to remit despite medical treatment, are seriously impairing. ADLs are seriously disrupted. Functioning shows serious difficulties in social or work activities.

CATEGORY 5: 51-75% Extreme Category of Permanent Impairment

Mental symptoms, arising from the work-related psychiatric diagnosis and not likely to remit despite medical treatment, are incapacitating. At times, ADLs require structuring. Functioning is quite poor, unsafe in work settings, at times requires hospitalization or full-time supervision. Most activities require directed care.

CATEGORY 6: 76-100% Maximum Category of Permanent Impairment

This impairment level precludes useful functioning in all areas. These individuals are generally appropriate for institutionalized settings, if available. All activities require directed care.