



**DIABETIC SENSORY-MOTOR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY  
DISABILITY BENEFITS QUESTIONNAIRE**

**IMPORTANT** - THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) WILL NOT PAY OR REIMBURSE ANY EXPENSES OR COST INCURRED IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING AND/OR SUBMITTING THIS FORM. PLEASE READ THE PRIVACY ACT AND RESPONDENT BURDEN INFORMATION BEFORE COMPLETING FORM.

NAME OF PATIENT/VETERAN

PATIENT/VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

**NOTE TO PHYSICIAN** - Your patient is applying to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for disability benefits. VA will consider the information you provide on this questionnaire as part of their evaluation in processing the veteran's claim.

**SECTION I - DIAGNOSIS**

1A. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE OR SHE EVER BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?

YES  NO (If "Yes," complete Item 1B)

1B. PROVIDE DIAGNOSES THAT PERTAIN TO DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY:

DIAGNOSIS # 1 -	ICD CODE -	DATE OF DIAGNOSIS -
DIAGNOSIS # 2 -	ICD CODE -	DATE OF DIAGNOSIS -
DIAGNOSIS # 3 -	ICD CODE -	DATE OF DIAGNOSIS -

1C. IF THERE ARE ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES THAT PERTAIN TO DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY, LIST USING ABOVE FORMAT:

**SECTION II - MEDICAL HISTORY**

2A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE DIABETES MELLITUS TYPE I OR TYPE II?

YES  NO

2B. DESCRIBE THE HISTORY (including cause, onset and course) OF THE VETERAN'S DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

2C. DOMINANT HAND

RIGHT  LEFT  AMBIDEXTROUS

**SECTION III - SYMPTOMS**

3. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS ATTRIBUTABLE TO DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?

YES  NO (If "Yes," indicate symptoms' location and severity) (Check all that apply):

CONSTANT PAIN (may be excruciating at times)

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

INTERMITTENT PAIN (usually dull)

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY:  None  Mild  Moderate  Severe



**SECTION IV - NEUROLOGIC EXAM (Continued)**

**4C. LIGHT TOUCH/MONOFILAMENT TESTING RESULTS**

All Normal

Shoulder area	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Inner/outer forearm	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Hand/fingers	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Knee/thigh	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ankle/lower leg	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Foot/toes	RIGHT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
	LEFT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

**4D. POSITION SENSE (grasp index finger/great toe on sides and ask patient to identify up and down movement)**

Not tested

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

**4E. VIBRATION SENSATION (place low-pitched tuning fork over DIP joint of index finger/IP joint of great toe)**

Not tested

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

**4F. COLD SENSATION (test distal extremities for cold sensation with side of tuning fork)**

Not tested

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

**4G. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE MUSCLE ATROPHY?**

YES     NO

*(If muscle atrophy is present, indicate location):* \_\_\_\_\_

*(For each instance of muscle atrophy, provide measurements in cm between normal and atrophied side, measured at maximum muscle bulk: \_\_\_\_\_ cm.)*

**4H. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE TROPHIC CHANGES (characterized by loss of extremity hair, smooth, shiny skin, etc.) ATTRIBUTABLE TO DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?**

YES     NO *(If "Yes," describe):*

**SECTION V - SEVERITY**

NOTE: Based on symptoms and findings from Sections III and IV, complete Items 5a and 5b below to provide an evaluation of the severity of the veteran's diabetic peripheral neuropathy.

NOTE: For VA purposes, the term "incomplete paralysis" indicates a degree of lost or impaired function substantially less than the description of complete paralysis that is given with each nerve. If the nerve is completely paralyzed, check the box for "complete paralysis". If the nerve is not completely paralyzed, check the box for "incomplete paralysis" and indicate severity.

For VA purposes, when nerve impairment is wholly sensory, the evaluation should be mild, or at most, moderate.

**5A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE AN UPPER EXTREMITY DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?**

YES     NO *(If "Yes," indicate nerve affected, severity and side affected)*

RADIAL NERVE (musculospiral nerve)

*(NOTE: Complete paralysis (hand and fingers drop, wrist and fingers flexed; cannot extend hand at wrist, extend proximal phalanges of fingers, extend thumb or make lateral movement of wrist; supination of hand, elbow extension and flexion weak, hand grip impaired.)*

RIGHT:     Normal     Incomplete paralysis     Complete paralysis

*(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):*

Mild     Moderate     Severe

**SECTION V - SEVERITY (Continued)**

5A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE AN UPPER EXTREMITY DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY? (Continued)

LEFT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Severe

**MEDIAN NERVE**

(NOTE: Complete paralysis (hand inclined to the ulnar side, index and middle fingers extended, atrophy of thenar eminence, cannot make fist, defective opposition of thumb, cannot flex distal phalanx of thumb; wrist flexion weak.)

RIGHT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Severe

**ULNAR NERVE**

(NOTE: Complete paralysis ("griffin claw" deformity, atrophy in dorsal interspaces, thenar and hypothenar eminences; cannot extend ring and little finger, cannot spread fingers, cannot adduct the thumb; wrist flexion weakened.)

RIGHT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Severe

LEFT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Severe

5B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A LOWER EXTREMITY DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?

YES  NO (If "Yes," indicate nerve affected, severity and side affected)

**SCIATIC NERVE**

(NOTE: Complete paralysis (foot dangles and drops, no active movement of muscles below the knee, flexion of knee weakened or lost.)

RIGHT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Moderately Severe  Severe, with marked muscular atrophy

LEFT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Moderately Severe  Severe, with marked muscular atrophy

**FEMORAL NERVE (anterior crural)**

(NOTE: Complete paralysis (paralysis of quadriceps extensor muscles.)

RIGHT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Moderately Severe

LEFT:  Normal  Incomplete paralysis  Complete paralysis

(If incomplete paralysis is checked, indicate severity):

Mild  Moderate  Moderately Severe

**SECTION VI - OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS**

6A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY SCARS (surgical or otherwise) RELATED TO ANY CONDITIONS OR TO THE TREATMENT OF ANY CONDITIONS LISTED IN SECTION I, DIAGNOSIS?

YES  NO (If "Yes," are any of the scars painful and/or unstable, or is the total area of all related scars greater than or equal to 39 square cm (6 square inches?))

YES  NO (If "Yes," ALSO complete VA Form 21-0960F-1, Scars/Disfigurement Disability Benefits Questionnaire)

6B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS RELATED TO ANY CONDITIONS LISTED IN SECTION I, DIAGNOSIS?

YES  NO (If "Yes," describe) (Brief summary):

**SECTION VII - DIAGNOSTIC TESTING**

**NOTE:** For purposes of this examination, electromyography (EMG) studies are rarely required to diagnose diabetic peripheral neuropathy. The diagnosis of diabetic peripheral neuropathy can be made in the appropriate clinical setting by a history of characteristic pain and/or sensory changes in a stocking/glove distribution and objective clinical findings, which may include symmetrical lost/decreased reflexes, decreased strength, lost/decreased sensation for cold, vibration and/or position sense, and/or lost/decreased sensation to monofilament testing.

7A. HAVE EMG STUDIES BEEN PERFORMED?

YES  NO

(Extremities tested):

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY Results:  Normal  Abnormal Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY Results:  Normal  Abnormal Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY Results:  Normal  Abnormal Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY Results:  Normal  Abnormal Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(If abnormal, describe): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7B. IF THERE ARE OTHER SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS OR DIAGNOSTIC TEST RESULTS, PROVIDE DATES AND DESCRIBE

**SECTION VIII - FUNCTIONAL IMPACT**

8. DOES THE VETERAN'S DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY IMPACT HIS OR HER ABILITY TO WORK?

YES  NO If "Yes," describe impact of the veteran's diabetic peripheral neuropathy, providing one or more examples:

**SECTION IX - REMARKS**

9. REMARKS, if any:

**SECTION X - PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE**

**CERTIFICATION** - To the best of my knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate, complete and current.

10A. PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE		10B. PHYSICIAN'S PRINTED NAME	10C. DATE SIGNED
10D. PHYSICIAN'S PHONE AND FAX NUMBER	10E. PHYSICIAN'S MEDICAL LICENSE NUMBER	10F. PHYSICIAN'S ADDRESS	

**NOTE** - VA may request additional medical information, including additional examinations, if necessary to complete VA's review of the veteran's application.

**IMPORTANT** - Physician please fax the completed form to \_\_\_\_\_  
(VA Regional Office FAX No.)

**NOTE** - A list of VA Regional Office FAX Numbers can be found at [www.benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams](http://www.benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams) or obtained by calling 1-800-827-1000.

**PRIVACY ACT NOTICE:** VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary. VA uses your SSN to identify your claim file. Providing your SSN will help ensure that your records are properly associated with your claim file. Giving us your SSN account information is voluntary. Refusal to provide your SSN by itself will not result in the denial of benefits. VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law. The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** We need this information to determine entitlement to benefits (38 U.S.C. 501). Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 30 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete a form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.