



REVIEW POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) 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 THIS FORM.

NAME OF PATIENT/VETERAN

PATIENT/VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

NOTE TO PSYCHIATRIST/PSYCHOLOGIST - 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. Please note that this questionnaire is for disability evaluation, not for treatment purposes. VA reserves the right to confirm the authenticity of ALL DBQs completed by private health care providers.

NOTE: If the Veteran experiences a mental health emergency during the interview, please terminate the interview and obtain help, using local resources as appropriate. You may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Stay on the Crisis Line until help can link the Veteran to emergency care.

The following health care providers can perform REVIEW examinations for PTSD: a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist; a licensed doctorate-level psychologist; a doctorate-level mental health provider under the close supervision of a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist or licensed doctorate-level psychologist; a psychiatry resident under close supervision of a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist or licensed doctorate-level psychologist; a clinical or counseling psychologist completing a one-year internship or residency (for purposes of a doctorate-level degree) under close supervision of a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist or licensed doctorate-level psychologist; or a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), a nurse practitioner, a clinical nurse specialist, or a physician assistant, under close supervision of a board-certified or board-eligible psychiatrist or licensed doctorate-level psychologist.

SECTION I - DIAGNOSTIC SUMMARY

NOTE: This section should be completed based on the current examination and clinical findings.

1. DOES THE VETERAN NOW HAVE OR HAS HE OR SHE EVER BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH PTSD?

YES NO (If "Yes," continue to complete this Questionnaire)
(If no diagnosis of PTSD, and the veteran has another Axis I and/or II diagnosis, then continue to complete this Questionnaire and/or VA Form 21-0960P-1, Eating Disorders Disability Benefits Questionnaire)

SECTION II - CURRENT DIAGNOSES

2A. LIST CURRENT DIAGNOSES

DIAGNOSIS #1: _____

ICD CODE: _____ INDICATE THE AXIS CATEGORY: AXIS I AXIS II

COMMENTS, IF ANY: _____

DIAGNOSIS #2: _____

ICD CODE: _____ INDICATE THE AXIS CATEGORY: AXIS I AXIS II

COMMENTS, IF ANY: _____

DIAGNOSIS #3: _____

ICD CODE: _____ INDICATE THE AXIS CATEGORY: AXIS I AXIS II

COMMENTS, IF ANY: _____

DIAGNOSIS #4: _____

ICD CODE: _____ INDICATE THE AXIS CATEGORY: AXIS I AXIS II

COMMENTS, IF ANY: _____

IF ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSES, DESCRIBE USING ABOVE FORMAT:

2B. AXIS III - MEDICAL DIAGNOSES (to include TBI):

ICD CODE: _____

COMMENTS, IF ANY:

SECTION II - CURRENT DIAGNOSES (Continued)

2C. AXIS IV - PSYCHOSOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS *(describe, if any):*

2D. AXIS V - CURRENT GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF FUNCTIONING (GAF) SCORE:

COMMENTS, IF ANY:

SECTION III - DIFFERENTIATION OF SYMPTOMS

3A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE MORE THAN ONE MENTAL DISORDER DIAGNOSED?

YES NO *(If "Yes," complete Item 3B)*

3B. IS IT POSSIBLE TO DIFFERENTIATE WHAT SYMPTOM(S) IS/ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO EACH DIAGNOSIS?

YES NO NOT APPLICABLE

(If "No," provide reason that it is not possible to differentiate what portion of each symptom is attributable to each diagnosis):

(If "Yes," list which symptoms are attributable to each diagnosis):

3C. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A DIAGNOSED TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI)?

YES NO NOT SHOWN IN RECORDS REVIEWED *(If "Yes," complete Item 3D)*

(Comments, if any):

3D. IS IT POSSIBLE TO DIFFERENTIATE WHAT SYMPTOM(S) IS/ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO EACH DIAGNOSIS?

YES NO NOT APPLICABLE

(If "No," provide reason that it is not possible to differentiate what portion of each symptom is attributable to each diagnosis):

(If "Yes," list which symptoms are attributable to each diagnosis):

SECTION IV - OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT

4A. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST SUMMARIZES THE VETERAN'S LEVEL OF OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT WITH REGARDS TO ALL MENTAL DIAGNOSES? *(Check only one)*

- NO MENTAL DISORDER DIAGNOSIS
- A MENTAL CONDITION HAS BEEN FORMALLY DIAGNOSED, BUT SYMPTOMS ARE NOT SEVERE ENOUGH EITHER TO INTERFERE WITH OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONING OR TO REQUIRE CONTINUOUS MEDICATION
- OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT DUE TO MILD OR TRANSIENT SYMPTOMS WHICH DECREASE WORK EFFICIENCY AND ABILITY TO PERFORM OCCUPATIONAL TASKS ONLY DURING PERIODS OF SIGNIFICANT STRESS, OR SYMPTOMS CONTROLLED BY MEDICATION
- OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT WITH OCCASIONAL DECREASE IN WORK EFFICIENCY AND INTERMITTENT PERIODS OF INABILITY TO PERFORM OCCUPATIONAL TASKS, ALTHOUGH GENERALLY FUNCTIONING SATISFACTORILY, WITH NORMAL ROUTINE BEHAVIOR, SELF-CARE AND CONVERSATION
- OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT WITH REDUCED RELIABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY
- OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT WITH DEFICIENCIES IN MOST AREAS, SUCH AS WORK, SCHOOL, FAMILY RELATIONS, JUDGMENT, THINKING AND/OR MOOD
- TOTAL OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT

4B. FOR THE INDICATED LEVEL OF OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT, IS IT POSSIBLE TO DIFFERENTIATE WHAT PORTION OF THE OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT INDICATED ABOVE IS CAUSED BY EACH MENTAL DISORDER?

YES NO NO OTHER MENTAL DISORDER HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED

(If "No," provide reason that it is not possible to differentiate what portion of the indicated level of occupational and social impairment is attributable to each diagnosis):

(If "Yes," list which portion of the indicated level of occupational and social impairment is attributable to each diagnosis):

SECTION IV - OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT (Continued)

4C. IF A DIAGNOSIS OF TBI EXISTS, IS IT POSSIBLE TO DIFFERENTIATE WHAT PORTION OF THE OCCUPATIONAL AND SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT INDICATED ABOVE IS CAUSED BY THE TBI?

YES NO NO DIAGNOSIS OF TBI

(If "No," provide reason that it is not possible to differentiate what portion of the indicated level of occupational and social impairment is attributable to each diagnosis):

(If "Yes," list which portion of the indicated level of occupational and social impairment is attributable to each diagnosis):

SECTION V - CLINICAL FINDINGS

1. EVIDENCE REVIEW

5A. IF ANY RECORDS (EVIDENCE) WERE REVIEWED, PLEASE LIST:

2. RECENT HISTORY (SINCE PRIOR EXAM)

5B. RELEVANT SOCIAL/MARITAL/FAMILY HISTORY:

5C. RELEVANT OCCUPATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL HISTORY:

5D. RELEVANT MENTAL HEALTH HISTORY, TO INCLUDE PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH:

5E. RELEVANT LEGAL AND BEHAVIORAL HISTORY:

5F. RELEVANT SUBSTANCE ABUSE HISTORY:

5G. SENTINEL EVENT(S) (OTHER THAN STRESSORS):

5H. OTHER *(If any)*:

SECTION VI - PTSD DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

NOTE: Please check criteria used for establishing the current PTSD diagnosis. The diagnostic criteria for PTSD, referred to as Criteria A-F, are from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition (DSM-IV).

CRITERION A: The Veteran has been exposed to a traumatic event where both of the following were present

- The Veteran experienced, witnessed or was confronted with an event that involved actual or threatened death or serious injury, or a threat to the physical integrity of self or others.
- The Veteran's response involved intense fear, helplessness or horror.
- No exposure to a traumatic event.

CRITERION B: The traumatic event is persistently re-experienced in 1 or more of the following ways:

- Recurrent and distressing recollections of the event, including images, thoughts or perceptions.
- Recurrent distressing dreams of the event.
- Acting or feeling as if the traumatic event were recurring; this includes a sense of reliving the experience, illusions, hallucinations and dissociative flashback episodes, including those that occur on awakening or when intoxicated.
- Intense psychological distress at exposure to internal or external cues that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event.
- Physiological reactivity on exposure to internal or external cues that symbolize or resemble an aspect of the traumatic event.
- The traumatic event is not persistently re-experienced.

CRITERION C: Persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma and numbing of general responsiveness (*not present before the trauma*), as indicated by 3 or more of the following:

- Efforts to avoid thoughts, feelings or conversations associated with the trauma.
- Efforts to avoid activities, places or people that arouse recollections of the trauma.
- Inability to recall an important aspect of the trauma.
- Markedly diminished interest or participation in significant activities.
- Feeling of detachment or estrangement from others.
- Restricted range of affection (*e.g., unable to have loving feelings*).
- Sense of a foreshortened future (*e.g., does not expect to have a career, marriage, children or a normal life span*).
- No persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma or numbing of general responsiveness.

CRITERION D: Persistent symptoms of increased arousal, not present before the trauma, as indicated by 2 or more of the following:

- Difficulty falling or staying asleep.
- Irritability or outbursts of anger.
- Difficulty concentrating.
- Hypervigilance.
- Exaggerated startle response.
- No persistent symptoms of increased arousal.

CRITERION E: Duration of symptoms:

- The duration of the symptoms described in Criteria B, C and D is more than 1 month.
- The duration of the symptoms described in Criteria B, C and D is less than 1 month.
- Veteran does not meet full criteria for PTSD.

CRITERION F: Clinically significant distress or impairment:

- The PTSD symptoms described above cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.
- The PTSD symptoms described above do NOT cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.
- Veteran does not meet full criteria for PTSD.

