



**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS)
 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 HAVE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS)?

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

1B. PROVIDE ONLY DIAGNOSES THAT PERTAIN TO MS

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 MS, LIST USING ABOVE FORMAT:

SECTION II - MEDICAL HISTORY

2A. DESCRIBE THE HISTORY (including onset and course) OF THE VETERAN'S MS (brief summary):

2B. DOMINANT HAND

RIGHT LEFT AMBIDEXTROUS

SECTION III - CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS DUE TO MS

3A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN THE UPPER AND/OR LOWER EXTREMITIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO (If "Yes," report under strength testing in neurologic exam section)

3B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY PHARYNX AND/OR LARYNX AND/OR SWALLOWING CONDITIONS DUE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply):

- Constant inability to communicate by speech
- Speech not intelligible or individual is aphonic
- Paralysis of soft palate with swallowing difficulty (nasal regurgitation) and speech impairment
- Hoarseness
- Mild swallowing difficulties
- Moderate swallowing difficulties
- Severe swallowing difficulties, permitting passage of liquids only
- Requires feeding tube due to swallowing difficulties
- Other (describe): _____

3C. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY RESPIRATORY CONDITIONS ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO (If "Yes," provide PFT results under "Diagnostic Testing" section)

SECTION III - CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS DUE TO MS (Continued)

3D. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE SLEEP DISTURBANCES ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply):

- Insomnia
- Hypersomnolence and/or daytime "sleep attacks"
- Persistent daytime hypersomnolence
- Sleep apnea requiring the use of breathing assistance device such as continuous airway pressure (CPAP) machine
- Sleep apnea causing chronic respiratory failure with carbon dioxide retention or cor pulmonale
- Sleep apnea requiring tracheostomy

3E. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY BOWEL FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply):

- Slight impairment of sphincter control, without leakage
- Constant slight impairment of sphincter control, or occasional moderate leakage
- Occasional involuntary bowel movements, necessitating wearing of a pad
- Extensive leakage and fairly frequent involuntary bowel movements
- Total loss of bowel sphincter control
- Chronic constipation
- Other bowel impairment (*describe*): _____

3F. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE VOIDING DYSFUNCTION CAUSING URINE LEAKAGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply):

- Does not require/does not use absorbent material
- Requires absorbent material that is changed less than 2 times per day
- Requires absorbent material that is changed 2 to 4 times per day
- Requires absorbent material that is changed more than 4 times per day

3G. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE VOIDING DYSFUNCTION CAUSING SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS OF URINARY FREQUENCY ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply):

- Daytime voiding interval between 2 and 3 hours
- Daytime voiding interval between 1 and 2 hours
- Daytime voiding interval less than 1 hour
- Nighttime awakening to void 2 times
- Nighttime awakening to void 3 to 4 times
- Nighttime awakening to void 5 or more times

3H. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE VOIDING DYSFUNCTION CAUSING FINDINGS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS OF OBSTRUCTED VOIDING ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all signs and symptoms that apply):

- Hesitancy
(If checked, is hesitancy marked?)
 YES NO
- Slow or weak stream
(If checked, is stream markedly slow or weak?)
 YES NO
- Decreased force of stream
(If checked, is force of stream markedly decreased?)
 YES NO
- Stricture disease requiring dilatation 1 to 2 times per year
- Stricture disease requiring periodic dilatation every 2 to 3 months
- Recurrent urinary tract infections secondary to obstruction
- Uroflowmetry peak flow rate less than 10 cc/sec
- Post void residuals greater than 150 cc
- Urinary retention requiring intermittent or continuous catheterization

SECTION III - CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS DUE TO MS (Continued)

3I. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE VOIDING DYSFUNCTION REQUIRING THE USE OF AN APPLIANCE ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," describe): _____

3J. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE A HISTORY OF RECURRENT SYMPTOMATIC URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all treatments that apply):

- No treatment
 Long-term drug therapy

(If checked, list medications used for urinary tract infection and indicate dates for courses of treatment over the past 12 months): _____

Hospitalization

(If checked, indicate frequency of hospitalization):

- 1 of 2 per year
 More than 2 per year

Drainage

(If checked, indicate dates when drainage performed over past 12 months): _____

Other management/treatment not listed above

(Description of management/treatment including dates of treatment): _____

3K. DOES THE VETERAN (if male) HAVE ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION?

YES NO

(If "Yes," is the erectile dysfunction as likely as not (at least a 50% probability attributable to MS including treatment or residuals of treatment?):)

YES NO

(If "No," provide the etiology of the erectile dysfunction): _____

(If "Yes," is the Veteran able to achieve an erection (without medication) sufficient for penetration and ejaculation?)

YES NO

(If "No," is the Veteran able to achieve an erection (with medication) sufficient for penetration and ejaculation?)

YES NO

3L. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY VISUAL DISTURBANCES ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," check all that apply, and also complete Eye DBQ (schedule with appropriate examiner)):

- Diplopia
 Blurring of vision
 Internuclear ophthalmoplegia
 Diminution of visual acuity (If checked, specify): unilateral bilateral
 Loss of visual acuity (If checked, specify): unilateral bilateral
 Other (describe): _____

SECTION IV - NEUROLOGIC EXAM

4A. GAIT

NORMAL ABNORMAL (describe): _____

(If gait is abnormal, and the Veteran has more than one medical condition contributing to the abnormal gait, identify the conditions and describe each condition's contribution to the abnormal gait):

SECTION IV - NEUROLOGIC EXAM (Continued)

4F. SUMMARY OF MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN THE UPPER AND/OR LOWER EXTREMITIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS (check all that apply):

RIGHT UPPER EXTREMITY MUSCLE WEAKNESS:

NONE MILD MODERATE SEVERE WITH ATROPHY COMPLETE (no remaining function)

LEFT UPPER EXTREMITY MUSCLE WEAKNESS:

NONE MILD MODERATE SEVERE WITH ATROPHY COMPLETE (no remaining function)

RIGHT LOWER EXTREMITY MUSCLE WEAKNESS:

NONE MILD MODERATE SEVERE WITH ATROPHY COMPLETE (no remaining function)

LEFT LOWER EXTREMITY MUSCLE WEAKNESS:

NONE MILD MODERATE SEVERE WITH ATROPHY COMPLETE (no remaining function)

NOTE: If the Veteran has more than one medical condition contributing to the muscle weakness, identify the condition(s) and describe each condition's contribution to the muscle weakness:

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

5A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY OTHER PERTINENT PHYSICAL FINDINGS, COMPLICATIONS, CONDITIONS, SIGNS AND/OR SYMPTOMS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," describe (brief summary)):

5B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE ANY SCARS (surgical or otherwise) RELATED TO ANY CONDITIONS OR TO THE TREATMENT OF ANY CONDITIONS LISTED IN THE DIAGNOSIS SECTION ABOVE?

YES NO (If "Yes," also complete a Scars Questionnaire for each scar)

SECTION VI - MENTAL HEALTH MANIFESTATIONS DUE TO MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS OR ITS TREATMENT

6A. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE DEPRESSION, COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT OR DEMENTIA, OR ANY OTHER MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS ATTRIBUTABLE TO MS AND/OR ITS TREATMENT?

YES NO

6B. DOES THE VETERAN'S MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION(S), AS IDENTIFIED IN THE QUESTION ABOVE, RESULT IN GROSS IMPAIRMENT IN THOUGHT PROCESSES OR COMMUNICATION?

YES NO

(If "No," also complete a Mental Health Questionnaire (schedule with appropriate provider)).

(If "Yes," briefly describe the Veteran's mental health condition):

SECTION VII - HOUSEBOUND

7A. IS THE VETERAN SUBSTANTIALLY CONFINED TO HIS OR HER DWELLING AND THE IMMEDIATE PREMISES (or if institutionalized, to the ward or clinical areas)?

YES NO

(If "Yes," describe how often per day or week and under what circumstances the veteran is able to leave the home or immediate premises):

(If "Yes," does the veteran have more than one condition contributing to his or her being housebound)

YES NO

(If "Yes," list conditions and describe how each condition contributes to causing the veteran to be permanently housebound)

PROVIDE CONDITIONS AND DESCRIBE HOW EACH CONDITION CONTRIBUTES TO THE VETERAN BEING PERMANENTLY HOUSEBOUND

CONDITION # 1 -

DESCRIPTION -

CONDITION # 2 -

DESCRIPTION -

CONDITION # 3 -

DESCRIPTION -

LIST ANY ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS -

DESCRIPTION -

LIST ANY ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS -

DESCRIPTION -

SECTION VIII - AID AND ATTENDANCE

8A. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO DRESS OR UNDRRESS HIM OR HERSELF WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8B. DOES THE VETERAN HAVE SUFFICIENT UPPER EXTREMITY COORDINATION AND STRENGTH TO BE ABLE TO FEED HIM OR HERSELF WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8C. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO PREPARE MEALS WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8D. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO ATTEND TO THE WANTS OF NATURE (*toileting*) WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8E. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO BATHE HIM OR HERSELF WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8F. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO KEEP HIM OR HERSELF ORDINARILY CLEAN AND PRESENTABLE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8G. IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO TAKE HIS OR HER PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER AND WITH ACCURATE DOSAGE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE?

YES NO

(If "No," is this limitation caused by the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8H. DOES THE VETERAN NEED FREQUENT ASSISTANCE FOR ADJUSTMENT OF ANY SPECIAL PROSTHETIC OR ORTHOPEDIC APPLIANCE(S)?

YES NO

(If "Yes," describe):

NOTE: For VA purposes, "bedridden" will be that condition which actually requires that the claimant remain in bed. The fact that the claimant has voluntarily taken to bed or that a physician has prescribed rest in bed for the greater or lesser party of the day to promote convalescence or cure will not suffice.

8I. IS THE VETERAN BEDRIDDEN?

YES NO

(If "Yes," is it due to the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8J. IS THE VETERAN LEGALLY BLIND?

YES NO

(If "Yes," is it due to the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

Provide best correct vision, if known: Left Eye: _____ Right Eye: _____

8K. DOES THE VETERAN REQUIRE CARE AND/OR ASSISTANCE ON A REGULAR BASIS DUE TO HIS OR HER PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL DISABILITIES IN ORDER TO PROTECT HIM OR HERSELF FROM THE HAZARDS AND/OR DANGERS INCIDENT TO HIS OR HER DAILY ENVIRONMENT?

YES NO

(If "Yes," is it due to the Veteran's MS?)

YES NO

8L. LIST ANY CONDITION(S), IN ADDITION TO THE VETERAN'S MS, THAT CAUSES ANY OF THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS:

SECTION IX - NEED FOR HIGHER LEVEL (i.e., more skilled) A&A

9A. DOES THE VETERAN REQUIRE A HIGHER, MORE SKILLED LEVEL OF A&A?

YES NO

NOTE: For VA purposes, this skilled, higher level care includes (but is not limited to) health-care services such as physical therapy, administration of injections, placement of indwelling catheters, changing of sterile dressings, and/or like functions which require professional health-care training or the regular supervision of a trained health-care professional to perform. In the absence of this higher level of care provided in the home, the Veteran would require hospitalization, nursing home care, or other residential institutional care.

SECTION X - ASSISTIVE DEVICES AND REMAINING FUNCTION OF THE EXTREMITIES

10A. DOES THE VETERAN USE ANY ASSISTIVE DEVICE(S) AS A NORMAL MODE OF LOCOMOTION, ALTHOUGH OCCASIONAL LOCOMOTION BY OTHER METHODS MAY BE POSSIBLE?

YES NO

(If "Yes," identify assistive device(s) used (check all that apply and indicate frequency)

<input type="checkbox"/> WHEELCHAIR	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant
<input type="checkbox"/> BRACE(S)	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant
<input type="checkbox"/> CRUTCH(ES)	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant
<input type="checkbox"/> CANE(S)	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant
<input type="checkbox"/> WALKER	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	Frequency of use:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Constant

(For each checked assistive device, identify and describe each condition causing the need for that assistive device):

9B. DUE TO MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, IS THERE FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT OF AN EXTREMITY SUCH THAT NO EFFECTIVE FUNCTION REMAINS OTHER THAN THAT WHICH WOULD BE EQUALLY WELL SERVED BY AN AMPUTATION WITH PROSTHESIS? *(Functions of the upper extremity include grasping, manipulation, etc., while functions for the lower extremity include balance and propulsion, etc.)*

YES, FUNCTIONING IS SO DIMINISHED THAT AMPUTATION WITH PROSTHESIS WOULD EQUALLY SERVE THE VETERAN
 NO

(If "Yes," indicate extremity(ies)) (Check all extremities for which this applies):

Right upper Left upper Right lower Left lower

(For each checked extremity, describe loss of effective function, identify the condition causing loss of function, and provide specific examples (brief summary)):

SECTION XI - FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

11. IN YOUR JUDGMENT, IS THE VETERAN ABLE TO MANAGE HIS/HER BENEFIT PAYMENTS IN HIS/HER OWN BEST INTEREST, OR ABLE TO DIRECT SOMEONE ELSE TO DO SO?

YES NO

SECTION XII - DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

NOTE: If the results of MRI, other imaging studies or other diagnostic tests are in the medical record and reflect the Veteran's current condition, repeat testing is not required. If pulmonary function testing (PFT) is indicated due to respiratory disability, and results are in the medical record and reflect the Veteran's current respiratory function, repeat testing is not required. DLCO and bronchodilator testing is not indicated for a restrictive respiratory disability such as that caused by muscle weakness due to MS.

12A. HAVE IMAGING STUDIES BEEN PERFORMED?

YES NO

(If "Yes," provide most recent results, if available): _____

12B. HAVE PFT's BEEN PERFORMED?

YES NO

(If "Yes," provide most recent results, if available):

FEV1: _____ % predicted Date of test: _____
FEV1/FVC: _____ % predicted Date of test: _____
FEV: _____ % predicted Date of test: _____

12C. IF PFT's HAVE BEEN PERFORMED, IS THE FLOW-VOLUME LOOP COMPATIBLE WITH UPPER AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION?

YES NO

SECTION XII - DIAGNOSTIC TESTING (Continued)

12D. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT DIAGNOSTIC TEST FINDINGS AND/OR RESULTS?

YES NO

(If "Yes," provide type of test or procedure, date and results (brief summary)):

SECTION XIII - FUNCTIONAL IMPACT

13. DOES THE VETERAN'S MS IMPACT HIS OR HER ABILITY TO WORK?

YES NO (If "Yes," describe impact of the veteran's MS, providing one or more examples):

SECTION XIV - REMARKS

14. REMARKS (If any)

SECTION XV - PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

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

15A. PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE

15B. PHYSICIAN'S PRINTED NAME

15C. DATE SIGNED

15D. PHYSICIAN'S PHONE AND FAX NUMBER

15E. PHYSICIAN'S MEDICAL LICENSE NUMBER

15F. 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.vba.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 required to obtain or retain benefits. 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 45 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. If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.