



eDATA SERVICES
Health Information Management Specialists
www.eDataServices.com
(310) 870-9733 - (866) 879-6306

HIPAA Compliant Sample Report
Impairment Rating Analysis

February 24, 2014

RE: DOE, John
DATE OF INJURY: September 13, 2010
EMPLOYER: Metropolis Construction
INSURANCE CARRIER: Forever Insurance
CLAIM NUMBER: WCXXXXXXXX
WCAB NUMBER: ADJ XXXXXXXX
DATE OF EVALUATION: June 29, 2013

IMPAIRMENT RATING ANALYSIS

This feedback report concerns industrial injuries claimed by John Doe on September 13, 2010 while employed as a window installer with Metropolis Construction. A copy of a panel qualified medical evaluation report by Dr. Hannibal Lecter, dated June 29, 2013, has been provided for reference.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Lecter diagnosed the applicant with (1) status post severe laceration of the left wrist with laceration of the flexor tendon of the left little finger, ulnar nerve and ulnar artery, with residuals; (2) ulnar claw hand as a result of the ulnar nerve laceration at the left wrist; (3) non-displaced fracture involving the dorsal aspect of the lunate, left wrist, confirmed by an MRI; (4) neuralgia of the left upper extremity; and (5) complaints of right wrist/hand pain with negative physical examination findings.

Left wrist impairment was derived secondary to abnormal range of motion. This is calculated accurately.

The left hand impairment is calculated secondary to loss of motion for the thumb and index finger. The impairment for the left middle, ring, and little fingers are determined based on loss of motion and sensory deficit for each digit. The following errors were noted:

For the left thumb, per table 16-1 on page 438, the 6% digit impairment is equivalent to 2% hand impairment and not 1%.

For the index finger, the reviewer noted that Dr. Lecter added the digit impairments (DI) derived secondary to abnormal range of motion. This is incorrect. Per page 465 of the *AMA Guides* 5th Edition, "combine the finger impairments derived for each joint to obtain the total finger impairment due to loss of motion. According to Dr. Lecter's report, the applicant incurred 16% DI at the DIP joint, 10% DI at the PIP joint, and 18% DI at the MP joint of the left index finger.

Impairment Rating Analysis

These are combined per the Combined Values Chart on page 604, yielding 38% digit impairment or 8% hand impairment for the left index finger, per Table 16-1 on page 438.

For the left middle finger, the range of motion and sensory deficit impairments are derived correctly.

For the left ring and little finger, the calculation of the digit impairment is correct; however, the conversion of the digit impairment to hand impairment is inaccurate. Per table 16-1 on page 438, the 86% DI of the left ring finger is equivalent to 9% hand impairment while the 94% DI of the left little finger should correspond to 9% hand impairment.

The applicant should have incurred the following hand impairments:

- Left thumb: 2% hand impairment
- Left index finger: 8% hand impairment
- Left middle finger: 18% hand impairment
- Left ring finger: 9% hand impairment
- Left little finger: 9% hand impairment

Dr. Lecter combined the hand impairments for each digit. However, the Guides indicated on page 436 that to get the total hand impairment, add the hand impairment of the thumb, index, middle, ring, and little finger. Using the correct hand impairments listed above, the applicant sustained 46% hand impairment, which is equivalent to 41% upper extremity impairment for the left hand.

Dr. Lecter also determined impairment due to grip strength loss in the minor left hand. Grip strength should not be included as part of impairment since the patient has left hand deformity, which impedes his ability to have an adequate grip strength measurement. According to page 508 of the Guides, "decreased strength cannot be rated in the presence of decreased motion, painful conditions, deformities, or absence of parts that prevent effective application of maximal force in the region being evaluated.

The pain related impairment (3% WPI) provided in the report is deemed to be reasonable in relation to the applicant's difficulty with activities of daily living.

The upper extremity impairment for the left wrist and left hand had a combined value of 46% upper extremity impairment or **28% whole person impairment for the left upper extremity. Adding the 3% whole person impairment due to ongoing pain will yield 31% total whole person impairment.**

BODY PARTS	CORRECTED IMPAIRMENT RATING
Left upper extremity	41% UEI + 8% UEI = 46% UEI (28% WPI)
Total whole person impairment:	28% WPI + 3% WPI (Pain) = 31% total WPI

.....

PERMANENT DISABILITY RATING ANALYSIS

Applicant: DOE, John
Occupation: Window installer

Occupational Group Number: 380
Date of Birth: 06/01/79
Date of Injury: 09/13/10
Age on the date of injury: 31

The values corrected under the impairment analysis are applied in the determination of permanent disability. However, the corresponding permanent disability and dollar value would still remain the same.

Left Wrist:

Range of Motion, Figures 16-28 and 16-31; of the AMA Guides 5th Edition (pp. 467 and 469): The applicant was determined to have 8% upper extremity impairment or 5% whole person impairment.

Left hand/multiple fingers:

Range of Motion, Tables 16-1, 16-2, 16-316-8b, 16-9, Figures 16-21, 16-23 and 16-25 of the AMA Guides 5th Edition (pp. 438-439, 459, 461, 463-464;7 and 469): The applicant was determined by Dr. Lecter to have the following hand impairment secondary to loss of motion:

Left thumb: 2% hand impairment
Left index finger: 8% hand impairment
Left middle finger: 18% hand impairment
Left ring finger: 17% hand impairment
Left little finger: 9% hand impairment
Total left hand impairment: 54% hand impairment = 49% UEI = 29% WPI

Sensory deficit, Tables 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, and 16-7 of the AMA Guides 5th Edition (pp. 438-439, 448): The applicant was determined by Dr. Lecter to have the following hand impairment secondary to sensory deficit:

Left middle finger: 7% hand impairment
Left ring finger: 2% hand impairment
Left little finger: 2% hand impairment
Total left hand impairment: 11% hand impairment = 10% UEI = 6% WPI + 3% Pain impairment

Pain-related impairment of the AMA Guides 5th Edition Chapter 18 (p. 574): Dr. Lecter provided 3% whole person impairment.

* There is no basis for apportion according to Dr. Lecter. 100% of the applicant's permanent disability to the left wrist and hand is apportioned to the specific injury on December 16, 2010.

BODY PARTS	PERMANENT DISABILITY RATING
Left wrist- ROM	16.04.01.00 5[4] 6 380J 11 10
Left hand/multiple fingers - ROM	16.05.01.00 29[1] 32 380H 38 35
Left hand/multiple fingers – Sensory + Pain	16.05.03.00 9[1] 10 380H 13 11
COMBINED P.D. VALUE: 35 C 11 C 10 = 48% P.D. = \$59,110.00	