

Department of Veterans Affairs

§ 4.88a

Roman numeral. Each ear will be evaluated separately.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1155)

[64 FR 25209, May 11, 1999]

§ 4.87 Schedule of ratings—ear.

DISEASES OF THE EAR		Rat- ing
6200 Chronic suppurative otitis media, mastoiditis, or cholesteatoma (or any combination): During suppuration, or with aural polyps		10
NOTE: Evaluate hearing impairment, and complications such as labyrinthitis, tinnitus, facial nerve paralysis, or bone loss of skull, separately.		
6201 Chronic nonsuppurative otitis media with effusion (serous otitis media): Rate hearing impairment		
6202 Otosclerosis: Rate hearing impairment		
6204 Peripheral vestibular disorders: Dizziness and occasional staggering		30
Occasional dizziness		10
NOTE: Objective findings supporting the diagnosis of vestibular disequilibrium are required before a compensable evaluation can be assigned under this code. Hearing impairment or suppuration shall be separately rated and combined.		
6205 Meniere's syndrome (endolymphatic hydrops): Hearing impairment with attacks of vertigo and cerebellar gait occurring more than once weekly, with or without tinnitus		100
Hearing impairment with attacks of vertigo and cerebellar gait occurring from one to four times a month, with or without tinnitus		60
Hearing impairment with vertigo less than once a month, with or without tinnitus		30
NOTE: Evaluate Meniere's syndrome either under these criteria or by separately evaluating vertigo (as a peripheral vestibular disorder), hearing impairment, and tinnitus, whichever method results in a higher overall evaluation. But do not combine an evaluation for hearing impairment, tinnitus, or vertigo with an evaluation under diagnostic code 6205.		
6207 Loss of auricle: Complete loss of both		50
Complete loss of one		30
Deformity of one, with loss of one-third or more of the substance		10
6208 Malignant neoplasm of the ear (other than skin only)		100
NOTE: A rating of 100 percent shall continue beyond the cessation of any surgical, radiation treatment, antineoplastic chemotherapy or other therapeutic procedure. Six months after discontinuance of such treatment, the appropriate disability rating shall be determined by mandatory VA examination. Any change in evaluation based on that or any subsequent examination shall be subject to the provisions of § 3.105(e) of this chapter. If there has been no local recurrence or metastasis, rate on residuals.		
6209 Benign neoplasms of the ear (other than skin only): Rate on impairment of function.		
6210 Chronic otitis externa:		

DISEASES OF THE EAR—Continued

	Rat- ing
Swelling, dry and scaly or serous discharge, and itching requiring frequent and prolonged treatment	10
6211 Tympanic membrane, perforation of	0
6260 Tinnitus, recurrent	10
NOTE (1): A separate evaluation for tinnitus may be combined with an evaluation under diagnostic codes 6100, 6200, 6204, or other diagnostic code, except when tinnitus supports an evaluation under one of those diagnostic codes.	
NOTE (2): Assign only a single evaluation for recurrent tinnitus, whether the sound is perceived in one ear, both ears, or in the head.	
NOTE (3): Do not evaluate objective tinnitus (in which the sound is audible to other people and has a definable cause that may or may not be pathologic) under this diagnostic code, but evaluate it as part of any underlying condition causing it.	

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1155)

[64 FR 25210, May 11, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 25823, May 14, 2003]

§ 4.87a Schedule of ratings—other sense organs.

	Rat- ing
6275 Sense of smell, complete loss	10
6276 Sense of taste, complete loss	10
NOTE: Evaluation will be assigned under diagnostic codes 6275 or 6276 only if there is an anatomical or pathological basis for the condition.	

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1155)

[64 FR 25210, May 11, 1999]

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, IMMUNE DISORDERS AND NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCIES

§ 4.88 [Reserved]

§ 4.88a Chronic fatigue syndrome.

(a) For VA purposes, the diagnosis of chronic fatigue syndrome requires:

- (1) new onset of debilitating fatigue severe enough to reduce daily activity to less than 50 percent of the usual level for at least six months; and
- (2) the exclusion, by history, physical examination, and laboratory tests, of all other clinical conditions that may produce similar symptoms; and
- (3) six or more of the following:
 - (i) acute onset of the condition,
 - (ii) low grade fever,
 - (iii) nonexudative pharyngitis,

§ 4.88b

38 CFR Ch. I (7–1–25 Edition)

- (iv) palpable or tender cervical or axillary lymph nodes,
- (v) generalized muscle aches or weakness,
- (vi) fatigue lasting 24 hours or longer after exercise,

- (vii) headaches (of a type, severity, or pattern that is different from headaches in the pre-morbid state),
- (viii) migratory joint pains,
- (ix) neuropsychologic symptoms,
- (x) sleep disturbance.
- (b) [Reserved]

[59 FR 60902, Nov. 29, 1994]

§ 4.88b Schedule of ratings—contagious diseases, immune disorders and nutritional deficiencies.

NOTE: Rate any residual disability of infection within the appropriate body system as indicated by the notes in the evaluation criteria. As applicable, consider the long-term health effects potentially associated with infectious diseases as listed in § 3.317(d) of this

chapter, specifically Brucellosis, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Coxiella burnetii* (Q fever), Malaria, *Mycobacterium Tuberculosis*, Nontyphoid *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, Visceral Leishmaniasis, and West Nile virus.

	Rating
<i>General Rating Formula for Infectious Diseases:</i>	
For active disease	100
After active disease has resolved, rate at 0 percent for infection. Rate any residual disability of infection within the appropriate body system.	
6300 Vibriosis (Cholera, Non-cholera): Evaluate under the General Rating Formula. <i>Note:</i> Rate residuals of cholera and non-cholera vibrio infections, such as renal failure, skin, and musculoskeletal conditions, within the appropriate body system.	
6301 Visceral leishmaniasis: As active disease	100
<i>Note 1:</i> Continue a 100 percent evaluation beyond the cessation of treatment for active disease. Six months after discontinuance of such treatment, determine the appropriate disability rating by mandatory VA examination. Any change in evaluation based upon that or any subsequent examination shall be subject to the provisions of § 3.105(e) of this chapter. Thereafter, rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection, which includes, but is not limited to liver damage and bone marrow disease. <i>Note 2:</i> Confirm the recurrence of active infection by culture, histopathology, or other diagnostic laboratory testing.	
6302 Leprosy (Hansen’s disease): As active disease	100
<i>Note:</i> Continue a 100 percent evaluation beyond the cessation of treatment for active disease. Six months after discontinuance of such treatment, determine the appropriate disability rating by mandatory VA examination. Any change in evaluation based upon that or any subsequent examination shall be subject to the provisions of § 3.105(e) of this chapter. Thereafter, rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection, which includes, but is not limited to, skin lesions, peripheral neuropathy, or amputations.	
6304 Malaria: Evaluate under the General Rating Formula. <i>Note 1:</i> The diagnosis of malaria, both initially and during relapse, depends on the identification of the malarial parasites in blood smears or other specific diagnostic laboratory tests such as antigen detection, immunologic (immunochromatographic) tests, and molecular testing such as polymerase chain reaction tests. <i>Note 2:</i> Rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection, which includes, but is not limited to, liver or splenic damage, and central nervous system conditions.	
6305 Lymphatic filariasis, to include elephantiasis: Evaluate under the General Rating Formula. <i>Note:</i> Rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection, which includes, but is not limited to, epididymitis, lymphangitis, lymphatic obstruction, or lymphedema affecting extremities, genitals, and/or breasts.	
6306 Bartonellosis: Evaluate under the General Rating Formula. <i>Note:</i> Rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection, which includes, but is not limited to, endocarditis or skin lesions.	
6307 Plague: Evaluate under the General Rating Formula. <i>Note:</i> Rate under the appropriate body system any residual disability of infection.	
6308 Relapsing Fever: Evaluate under the General Rating Formula.	