

Disability Support Pension Impairment Tables Questionnaire

Response: 045

Anonymous

11a Select the key theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the most important to you

Mental health

11b Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the second most important to you

Fully diagnosed, treated and stabilised (FDTS) requirement

11c Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the third most important to you

Medical evidence requirements

12a (i) The removal of the term 'permanent condition' provides greater clarity that a condition must persist for two years as part of the DSP eligibility criteria

Strongly disagree

12a (ii) The proposed changes more clearly describe the requirements of diagnosis, treatment and stabilisation of conditions for DSP assessment

Unsure

12b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes to the FDTS requirement

Public hospitals diagnosis and treatment take too long to get because of the time it takes to get appointments.

Private diagnosis costs those trying to apply for DSP can be out of reach for low income people.

13a (i) The inclusion of additional defined terms provides greater clarity around terminology used in the Instrument

Unsure

13a (ii) Simplification in Part 2 of the Instrument improves the guidance and readability of the section

Unsure

13a (iii) The proposed changes to Table introductions and descriptors has made it easier to understand the requirements of Tables

Agree

13a (iv) The additional guidance in appropriate Tables provides greater clarity when considering functional impairment. For example an additional guidance point to all Tables on fluctuating and episodic conditions

Unsure

13a (v) The updating of references to relevant assistive technology provides clearer guidance and modernises the Tables

Unsure

13a (vi) The broader range of examples in the Tables illustrates how a person's functional impairment may impact their ability to work

Agree

14a The proposed changes recognise and capture the functional impacts relating to alcohol, drug and other substance misuse in appropriate Tables

Strongly disagree

14b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about the impacts from alcohol, drug and other substance misuse.

The whole addiction area needs much better reviewing. How it is decided who qualifies for DSP under this category is messy and confusing.

15a The addition of guidance recognises the impacts of ongoing side effects from prescribed medication and treatment

Unsure

16a (i) Proposed changes better represent the functional impact of pain

Unsure

16a (ii) Additional examples of pain related conditions that result in functional impairment provide more clarity around the types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Unsure

16b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about pain.

Pain needs to be considered for all applicants. Chronic pain is distressing for people and not always easy to explain. More alternative treatments should be considered because not all treatments work

17a Additional examples of chronic illnesses that result in functional impairment provide greater clarity around the types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Unsure

18a Additional examples of renal conditions that result in functional impairment provide more clarity around the types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Agree

19a (i) Additional examples of fatigue related conditions that result in functional impairment provide greater clarity around the types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Unsure

19a (ii) The inclusion of a personal care descriptor captures the functional impacts of fatigue on a person's ability to undertake personal care activities

Unsure

19a (iii) Proposed changes better represent the functional impact of fatigue related conditions

Unsure

20a Additional examples of cancer and subsequent conditions that result in functional impairment provide more clarity around these types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Unsure

20b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about cancer.

All cancers should be treated the same. If it's diagnosed all people should be approved for DSP rather than having to be treated, stable and fully diagnosed. Not everyone wants to have treatments and treatments are difficult to go through because of the side effects of it

21a (i) Additional examples of specific pieces of evidence that may be used to support a claim assists individuals to identify the accepted range of medical evidence that can be provided

Agree

21a (ii) Additional examples of professionals assists individuals identify the range of appropriate practitioners who are able to provide medical evidence in support of their claims

Agree

22a (i) Addition of descriptors better capture shoulder function in Table 2 - Upper Limb Function

Disagree

22a (ii) The addition of descriptors for the loss of function of a dominant limb under Table 2 – Upper Limb Function better recognises functional impacts of losing a dominant upper limb

Unsure

22a (iii) Additional examples of specific skin conditions that result in functional impairment provide more clarity around the types of conditions that may be assessed against a Table

Unsure

23a The proposed changes better capture the functional impacts of balance, dizziness and a person's ability to stand

Unsure

24a The proposed change will better support individuals by providing a broader range of medical professionals allowed to provide corroborating evidence in support of a diagnosis of a mental health condition for assessment under Table 5 – Mental Health Function

Agree

25a The proposed changes improve alignment with other recognised mental health assessment tools (including the World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule –WHODAS, Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – DSM, World Health Organization International Classification of Diseases - ICD)

Unsure

26a (i) Proposed changes better reflect conditions on the spectrum of neurodiversity

Unsure

26a (ii) The addition of a new social skills descriptors in the table relating to brain function recognise difficulties a neurodivergent person may experience in social situations

Unsure

26b Regarding the proposed change on Table 6 – Brain Function to better recognise social skills difficulties, would you prefer to:

keep the current list of descriptors and require a person to meet only one descriptor for the relevant impairment rating to be assigned

27a The proposed changes better recognise the need for culturally appropriate assessments

Agree

28 In accordance with the Privacy Collection Notice, please select one of the following.

I would like my submission to be published anonymously