

## Disability Support Pension Impairment Tables Questionnaire

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Response: 095

Mike Gilks

<b>11a Select the key theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the most important to you</b>
Pain
<b>11b Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the second most important to you</b>
Fatigue
<b>11c Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the third most important to you</b>
Musculoskeletal and skin functions
<b>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</b>
Agree
<b>12a (ii) The proposed changes more clearly describe the requirements of diagnosis, treatment and stabilisation of conditions for DSP assessment</b>
Agree
<b>12b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes to the FDTs requirement</b>
This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.
<b>13a (i) The inclusion of additional defined terms provides greater clarity around terminology used in the Instrument</b>
Unsure
<b>13a (ii) Simplification in Part 2 of the Instrument improves the guidance and readability of the section</b>
Agree
<b>13a (iii) The proposed changes to Table introductions and descriptors has made it easier to understand the requirements of Tables</b>
Unsure
<b>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</b>
Agree
<b>13a (v) The updating of references to relevant assistive technology provides clearer guidance and modernises the Tables</b>
Unsure
<b>13a (vi) The broader range of examples in the Tables illustrates how a person's functional impairment may impact their ability to work</b>
Agree
<b>13b Please provide any additional comments on the proposed operational improvements.</b>
This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.
<b>14a The proposed changes recognise and capture the functional impacts relating to alcohol, drug and other substance misuse in appropriate Tables</b>

Agree

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

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

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

Agree

**15b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about the ongoing side effects of treatment.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

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

Agree

**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**

Agree

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

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.  
Pain, particularly inferred pain can be intermittent and very severe. This still says if I can do any activities when the pain is not bad I am healthy and ready to work. Rubbish!

**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

**17b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about chronic illness.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.  
I have chronic acute pain and should not have to hunt for an appropriate table to report it.

**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

**18b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about renal conditions.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

**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**

Strongly agree

**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**

Agree

**19b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about fatigue.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.  
I exercise every day to maintain movement. This is painful and exhausting, I don't know how to report that and Centrelink will definitely not provide any guidance.

**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.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

**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

**21b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes to medical evidentiary requirements.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start. Rather than give a list of included practitioners, why not a list of exclusions. I did not know that a Pain Management Specialist could not provide evidence of my chronic pain condition. Are you kidding me?

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

Agree

**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**

Agree

**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

**22b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about musculoskeletal and skin functions.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

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

Agree

**23b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about balance.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start. How can my ability to stand up give evidence of my ability to work 20 hours a week.

**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

**24b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about psychologists.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start. Are you kidding, a psychologist can't give evidence of a psychological condition. Were these tables designed to deny people access to appropriate support?

**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

**25b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about mental health.**

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

Agree

**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**

Agree

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

add a new social skills descriptor and require a person to meet at least two descriptors for the relevant impairment rating to be assigned

**26c Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about neurodiversity.**

This is still a lot of extra work for my GP. We should not become expert in Centrelink forms and processes, Centrelink should be expert in providing appropriate help and support for us. Any help at all with the application would be a great start.

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

Agree

**27b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes to address cultural appropriateness.**

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

I would like my submission to be published with identifying information (including name or name of organisation as provided in the questionnaire)