

# Disability Support Pension Impairment Tables Questionnaire

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Response: 147

Anonymous

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

Fully diagnosed, treated and stabilised (FDTs) requirement

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

Neurodiversity

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

Mental health

**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**

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**

The word permanent being removed is definitely needed however the guidelines still need to be given better understanding to staff and applicants because this can be interpreted that a potential applicant suffer for 2 years before being eligible  
The guidelines need to be very very clear with no room for any interpretation that will negatively affect a potential applicant from being successful

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

Disagree

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

Disagree

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

Unsure

**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**

Agree

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

Agree

**13b Please provide any additional comments on the proposed operational improvements.**

The operational improvements need to include a change in culture eg the culture should be that the operation want to give every application a successful outcome for the applicant rather than a culture of making it near impossible to be a successful applicant

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

Unsure

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

Agree

**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**

Agree

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

The list of conditions needs to be abolished  
1 person with the same impairment is able to do more than another

**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**

Disagree

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

It shouldn't be additional it should be ANY chronic illness that result in functional impairment

**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**

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

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

Any cancer that's diagnosed and the treatment and/or the condition itself should be included not additional examples

**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**

Disagree

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

Unless the costs of seeing these professionals are to be paid for with no out of pocket expenses to the applicants then the documents that the applicant is able to afford should be accepted or some sort of financial assistance should be provided weather that be a new Medicare item number that the professionals can use that actually pays their whole fee with no out of pocket expense or lengthy waiting in the public health system

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

Unsure

**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**

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

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

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

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

Adding psychologist is well and good but if an applicant can't afford to see a psychologist then it's not worth the addition

**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)**

Disagree

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

Disagree

**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**

Disagree

**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

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

A person may be able to be 'social' for short periods or on 'good days' or in different situations it is worrying that this is being thought to be include and to have to meet at least 2 descriptors would be limiting what about people who are non verbal in some situations but at other times are able to be verbal this really needs more information

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

Unsure

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

I would like my submission to be published anonymously