

Disability Support Pension Impairment Tables Questionnaire

Response: 188

Anonymous

11a Select the key theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the most important to you
Fatigue
11b Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the second most important to you
Chronic Illness
11c Select the theme of the proposed changes to the Impairment Tables that is the third most important to you
Fully diagnosed, treated and stabilised (FDTS) requirement
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
Agree
12a (ii) The proposed changes more clearly describe the requirements of diagnosis, treatment and stabilisation of conditions for DSP assessment
Agree
12b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes to the FDTS requirement
I still the the requirements for 'diagnosed' conditions is problematic for conditions like ME/CFS where there isn't clear diagnostic criteria but sufferers need help. For example if the person is experiencing hugely impactful symptoms but still doesn't have a clear diagnosis, they still can't get help under the clarified criteria if it's not diagnosed with a specific condition, is that right? I think this is an improvement though.
13a (i) The inclusion of additional defined terms provides greater clarity around terminology used in the Instrument
Agree
13a (ii) Simplification in Part 2 of the Instrument improves the guidance and readability of the section
Agree
13a (iii) The proposed changes to Table introductions and descriptors has made it easier to understand the requirements of Tables
Strongly 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
Agree
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
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
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.
Yes I am glad to see severe migraines and fibromyalgia included in this list because I know people severely affected by these.
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
Agree
17b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about chronic illness.
Glad to see the inclusion of Narcolepsy.
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
Unsure
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
Strongly agree
19a (iii) Proposed changes better represent the functional impact of fatigue related conditions
Agree
19b Please provide any additional comments regarding changes about fatigue.
Extremely glad of the inclusion of ME/CFS. I have a friend who has been hugely impacted by this condition and if he can provide evidence and receive support that would be huge. I am extremely happy for greater inclusion of ME/CFS.
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
Agree
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
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
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

Agree

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)

Agree

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

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