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CRITERION-REFERENCE MEASUREMENT EVALUATING MEDICAL DOCUMENTS; A VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

The *AMA Guides* for each medical condition are used as a basis for a criterion-referenced analysis. All medical impairments are considered for each body part or injury, as well as for each type of injury: orthopedic, internal, neurological, psychiatric, or another medical specialty and are based upon activities of daily living. If multiple medical evaluations are present and differences in medical conclusions and opinions are noted, then all medical impairments are considered and given the appropriate weight, based upon substantial medical evidence.

Vocational analysis involves the basic foundations for elemental work; the exertion of force, frequency of activity on a one-time basis and cumulative basis, and duration of each individual task on a one-time basis and cumulative basis. Force, frequency, and duration associated with task, job or occupation can be used to analyze the medical impairments as follows:

1. Loss of functional ability in general.
2. Loss of strength factor (lift/carry/push/pull),
3. Loss of range of motion for whole body, upper extremities, and lower extremities
4. Loss of functional use of hands for handling, gripping, grasping, and loss of manual dexterity.
5. Vocational impact of pain & discomfort and the use of pain medication upon functional ability.