

VA DISABILITY RATINGS FOR SHOULDER CONDITIONS



SHOULDER REPLACEMENT DIAGNOSTIC CODE 5051

CRITERIA	DOMINANT SIDE	NON-DOMINANT SIDE
Rating for one year following surgery	100%	100%
After a year following surgery with severe painful motion or weakness With intermediate degrees of residual weakness, pain or limitation of motion, rate by analogy to diagnostic codes 5200 and 5203	60%	50%
After a year following surgery: the minimum ratings are as follows	30%	20%



STIFFNESS OR SHOULDER IMMOBILITY DIAGNOSTIC CODE 5200

CRITERIA	DOMINANT SIDE	NON-DOMINANT SIDE
Can only lift arm 25 degrees from side	50%	40%
Can only lift arm from 26 degrees to 59 degrees from side	40%	30%
Can only lift arm 60 degrees from side, can reach your mouth and head	30%	20%



LIMITATION OF MOTION OF SHOULDER AND ARM DIAGNOSTIC CODE 5201

CRITERIA	DOMINANT SIDE	NON-DOMINANT SIDE
Can only lift arm 25 degrees from side or in front	40%	30%
Can only lift arm 45 degrees from side or in front	30%	20%
Can only lift arm 90 degrees from side or in front	20%	20%



IMPAIRMENT OF THE HUMERUS BONE DIAGNOSTIC CODE 5202

CRITERIA	DOMINANT SIDE	NON-DOMINANT SIDE
The humeral head is lost causing loss of joint function and inability to stabilize the shoulder (known as a flail shoulder)	80%	70%
Nonunion of the humerus (known as a false flail joint)	60%	50%
Fracture site with mobility (known as a fibrous union)	50%	40%
Frequent episodes of dislocated shoulder, guarding all movements	30%	20%
Infrequent episodes of dislocated shoulder, only guarding movement at shoulder level	20%	20%
Malunion of humerus bone with marked deformity	30%	20%
Malunion of humerus bone with moderate deformity	20%	20%



IMPAIRMENT OF CLAVICLE OR SCAPULA BONE DIAGNOSTIC CODE 5203

CRITERIA	DOMINANT SIDE	NON-DOMINANT SIDE
Dislocation	20%	20%
Nonunion with loose movement	20%	20%
Nonunion without loose movement	10%	10%
Malunion	10%	10%

Shoulder pain can qualify for VA disability and will be rated 10% at minimum, unless there is limited motion that qualifies for a higher rating