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| Australian Government crest, Department of Veterans' Affairs branding | Thoraco-lumbar Spine Condition(s)Medical Impairment Assessment |
| Veteran |  | UIN |
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|  |  |  |
| Please assess the following conditions: For this assessment, each condition needs to be assessed in **isolation** from all others. This means that when assessing a condition, you will need to assess the impairment **as though** **only that single condition is present**, and that the veteran is otherwise healthy and normal. If it is not possible to separate the impairment in this way, please select a description of the total impairment rating under “combined conditions.” |

For the purposes of this form, “difficulty” refers to an activity being hard to perform, because of an actual, observable limitation or impediment. Difficulty may be evident through the use of splints, aids, rails, or personal assistance, or through the exertion of additional effort to complete the task. Voluntary avoidance of physical activity to minimise pain cannot be considered. Where possible, your assessment should be based on your observation and examination of the veteran, as well as their history and any relevant investigations.

1. Please select the most accurate description of impairment to **active range of movement (ROM) of the thoraco-lumbar spine**, due to each condition *in isolation*. Consider motion in all planes of movement.

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions**(if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No loss** or x-ray changes only. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Minor** loss. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |
| Loss of **less than half** normal range. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |
| Loss of **half** normal range. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| Loss of **more than half** normal range. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Complete** loss (ankyloses). |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]

1. Please select the most accurate description of any difficulty with **grades and slopes**, due to each condition *in isolation*.

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Some** difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Completely unable**. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |

1. Please select the most accurate description of any difficulty with **ascending and descending steps**, due to each condition *in isolation*.

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Some** difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Completely unable**. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |

1. Please record the **maximum walking distance** that can be walked **without needing to rest**, due to each condition *in isolation*.

| **Distance (metres)** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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1. Please select the most accurate description of any difficulty with **walking on level surfaces**, due to each condition *in isolation*.

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Some** difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Cannot walk**. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |

1. Please select the most accurate description of any difficulty with **rising to a standing position**, due to each condition *in isolation.*

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No difficulty. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Can rise** to, and maintain a standing position, **with difficulty**. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| **Cannot stand**. |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  [ ]  |  | [ ]  |

1. Please select the most accurate description of any **crush fractures**, due to each condition *in isolation*.

| **Description** | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | Insert condition: | **OR** | **Combined Conditions** (if unable to isolate) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| None. | [ ]  |[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]   |[ ]
| Compression of **25% to 50%**.* Specify number of affected vertebrae:
 | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |  | [ ]   |
| Compression of **greater than 50%**.* Specify number of affected vertebrae:
 | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   | [ ]   |  | [ ]   |

1. Are there any other comments you would like to make regarding the impact of the veteran’s thoraco-lumbar condition(s)?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Doctor's signature | Doctor's name | Date | Time to complete form |
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