

Psyche Reporting Rating and Analysis

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Today's Speakers

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Psychiatric Injuries: Report Analysis and Rating

This session will cover analysis of psychiatric permanent disability; how to identify and address major flaws in a psych report.

Part I – Review of a Report for Rating

Part II – How to Identify and Further Address Flaws in a Psych Report

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Part I

Part I – Review of a Psyche Report for Rating

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Case Evaluation - PD

- LC 3208.3
 - Compensability
- LC 4660.1
 - DOI on or after 1/1/2013





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Psyche


AMA Guides Chapter 14

- “Percentages are not provided...”
- “...there are no precise measures of impairment in mental disorders...” (page 361)





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- American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
- DSM-IV-TR published July 2000





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Chapter 13 or Chapter 14

- Cerebral Impairments from a Neurological injury
- Psychiatric injury





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Axis I through V

Axis V was an assessment of overall functioning known as the GAF.




MENTAL HEALTH EXAM



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Cover	MSB Office	Intro	Impairment	WPI x 1.4	FEC Table	Occupation	Occ. Var.	Occ. Adj.	Age	Examples	CYC
GAF WPI	GAF WPI	GAF WPI	GAF WPI								
1 90	84	83	87	5						100	0
2 89	83	81	85	3							
3 88	82	80	83	2							
4 88	81	79	83	0							
5 87	80	78	82	0							
6 87	79	77	81	0							
7 86	78	76	80	0							
8 85	77	75	79	0							
9 84	76	74	78	0							
10 84	75	73	77	0							
11 83	74	72	76	0							
12 82	73	71	75	0							
13 82	72	70	74	0							
14 81	71	69	73	0							
15 80	70	68	72	0							
16 80	69	67	71	0							
17 79	68	66	70	0							
18 78	67	65	69	0							
19 77	66	64	68	0							
20 77	65	63	67	0							
21 76	64	62	66	0							
22 76	63	61	65	0							
23 75	62	60	64	0							
24 74	61	59	63	0							
25 73	60	58	62	0							
26 73	59	57	61	0							
27 72	58	56	60	0							
28 71	57	55	59	0							
29 71	56	54	58	0							
30 70	55	53	57	0							
31 69	54	52	56	0							
32 67	53	51	54	0							
33 65	52	50	53	0							




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Rating **EXAMPLE**

- Date of birth: 1/15/1949
- Date of injury: 3/22/2014
- Hotel porter with Psyche injury with GAF of 64


GAF 64 = 9% WPI [PDRS page 1-16]
14.01.00.00 - 9 - [1.4]13 - 360E - 12 - 16% PD

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GAF range 61-70

14% WPI to 0% WPI


Some mild symptoms ...OR some difficulty in social, occupational, or school functioning


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GAF range 51-60

29% WPI - 15% WPI

- Moderate symptoms ...OR moderate difficulty in social, occupational, or school functioning



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Medical Report

Review WPI reporting

Does the doctor explain the WPI?

Evidence and Reasoning

EVIDENCE

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Review data within a psyche report for inconsistencies between data and subjective conclusions.

- Current Complaints/ Symptoms:
- Current Activities:
- Interpersonal Relationships:
- Mental Status Exam (MSE):
- Psychological Testing:



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Part II

How to Identify and Further Address Flaws in a Psych Report

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Substantial Medical Evidence

- Labor Code section 3208.3
- Psychological Disorder
- DSM diagnosis
- SUPPORT for the diagnosis


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FIVE SOURCES OF DATA

1. The patient's life history and their presenting complaints or symptoms
2. The doctor's report of their Mental Status Examination
3. The psychological testing data
4. A review and discussion of the patient's medical records
5. Collateral sources of information

COMMON RED FLAGS

Essentials of a Psych Report

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Common RED FLAGS In a Psych Report

No qualitative description of the patient's life history and presenting complaints

- Every report must have a complete history of symptoms or complaints
- Discussion of symptoms must have FIDOC data
- Match symptoms to DSM Criteria

Did the doctor conduct the evaluation Or have someone else participate?

Methodological concerns (e.g. double Signature)




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Common Red Flags In a Psych Report

The Mental Status Examination (MSE)

A Mental Status Examination produces a set of observations of the patient that are made by the doctor under reasonably controlled conditions employing a relatively standard set of examining techniques and questions in the context of a face-to-face interview: Mood, Memory, Concentration, Insight, Judgment.

- No observational data
- Inconsistent information
- Presence of summary conclusions
- Presence of complaints



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Common Red Flags In a Psych Report

Psychological Testing

A credible Psych report should have some form of objective psychological data that can be presented to the court that supports the doctor's conclusions

- Administering tests without validity scales
- Ignoring validity scale red flags
- Impossible MMPI-2 Scores
- No tests measuring the patient's credibility



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Common Red Flags In a Psych Report

A review and discussion of the patient's medical records:

Doctor did not review the records themselves!

- No record review
- Medical records don't agree with diagnosis
- No credible mental health practitioners who agree with their diagnosis




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Common Red Flags In a Psych Report

❑ Collateral Sources of Information

A credible report may have collateral sources of information in the form of interview data collected from friends, relatives and/or co-workers or business associates of the patient

➤ Not always found in psych reports




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How To Expose the Major Flaws in a Psych Report

An Apricot™ report:


- is used to cross-examine the doctor and write briefs for the courts demonstrating the substantial problems present in the doctor's report
- describes a psych report's flaws in jargon-free, non-technical language
- discusses specific techniques used to Cx the doctors
- provides multiple simple questions that get those flaws on the record
- is useful in any jurisdiction and is not subject to discovery
- Saves \$\$\$



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1. Never ask the doctor about the patient, only ask about the contents of their report
2. Focus all of your questions on the doctor's diagnosis
3. Be persistent in questioning!
4. Always determine if the doctor has taken a complete history of the patient's symptoms or complaints that supports their diagnosis
5. Always determine if the doctor has provided a credible patient history that supports their diagnosis
6. Always determine if the doctor has provided a credible report of their Mental Status Examination that supports their diagnosis
7. Always determine if the doctor has provided psychological testing data that supports their diagnosis

Rules and Tips



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