

# Law Offices of Bradford & Barthel, LLP

### ROM Method

I. Diagnosis*						
WPI e						
II. Range of Motion						
Lumbar	umbar (Table 15-8, 15-9)					
Thoracic	(Table 15-10, 15-11)					
Cervical Table	rvical Table (Tables 15-12, 15-13, 15-14)					
WPI equals						
Combine WPI from Element I and Element II **						
III. Nerve Root						
Sensory Loss Deficit %	(Table 15-15)					
Motor Deficit % (Table 15-16)						
Multiply deficits by table 15-17 (UE) or 15-18 (LE)						
Combine all sensory loss %, convert to WPI**						
Combine all motor loss %, convert to WPI**						
Sensory W						
Motor WP						

\* Identify the most significant diagnosis of the spinal region

\*\* Combined Values Chart

\*\*\*Combine Element I and II, then adjust. Adjust each sensory & motor WPI separately.

#### Use DRE method except in the following situations:

- Impairment is not caused by injury or illness
- Multilevel involvement in the same spinal region
- Fusions at multiple levels in the same region, unless there is involvement of corticospinal tract
- Recurrent radiculopathy caused by new (recurrent) disk herniation in the same spinal region
- Multiple episodes of other pathology producing alteration of motion segment integrity (fusion)
- Statutorily mandated

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Cervical SIDE VIEW OF Vertebrae THE SPINE C5T1 Thoracic Vertebrae Τ6 T12-L1-Lumbar Vertebrae L5 sacrumsacroiliac joint

C1

D R E

C A T E G O R

I E S

## Criteria for Rating Impairment Due

Та	able 15.3	Criteria for Rating Impairment Due to Lumbar Spine Injury (p.384)				
	1 11		III IV		V	
	0%	5 - 8%	10 - 13%	20- 23%	25 - 28%	
	No objective clinical findings	Significant muscle guarding or spasm at exam; asymmetric loss of range of motion; non radicular findings; history of resolved documented radiculopathy	Significant radiculopathy; unilateral atrophy at or below knee; radiculopathy resolved with surgery	Loss or alteration of motion segment integrity or bilateral or multilevel radiculopathy	Meets criteria of DRE III & IV. Radiculopathy and alteration of motion segment integrity (e.g. fusion)	
		or	or	or	or	
		<ol> <li>&lt; 25% compression fx of one vertebral body</li> <li>Posterior element fx without dislocation</li> <li>Spinous or transverse fx with displacement</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>25%-50%</li> <li>compression fx</li> <li>one vertebral body</li> <li>Posterior</li> <li>element fx with</li> <li>displacement</li> </ol>	>50% compression fx one vertebral body without residual neural compromise	> 50% compression of one vertebral body with unilateral neurological compromise	
Та	able 15.4 Criteria for Rating Impairment Due to Thoracic Spine Injury (p.389)					
	0%	5 - 8%	15 - 18%	20 - 23%	25 - 28%	
	No objective clinical findings	Significant muscle guarding or spasm observed at exam or non-radicular findings. History of documented but resolved radiculopathy. Herniated disk consistent with objective findings Or 1. <25% compression fx one vertebral body; 2. Posterior element fx without dislocation; 3. Spinous or transverse fx with displacement	Ongoing neuro lower extremity impairment due to injury. Radiculopathy or h/o radiculopathy improved with surgery or 1. 25%-50% compression fx one vertebral body 2. Posterior element fx with displacement	Loss or alteration of motion segment integrity or bilateral or multilevel radiculopathy or >50% compression fx one vertebral body without residual neural compromise	Impairment of LE as defined in Cat III and loss of structural integrity as defined in Cat IV or >50% compression of one vertebral body w/ neural motor compromise, but not bilateral involvement	
Та	Criteria for Rating Impairment Due         to Cervical Disorders (p.392)					
	0%	5 - 8%	15 - 18%	25- 28%	35-38%	
	No objective clinical findings	Muscle guarding or spasm observed at exam; non-radicular findings: History of documented radiculopathy improved with non-operative treatment	Radiculopathy; history of radiculopathy improved with surgery	Alteration of motion segment integrity (e.g. fusion) or multi level radiculopathy	Significant UE impairment requiring use of UE ext functional or adaptive devices: total loss at a single level or severe multilevel nuero dysfunction	
		or 1. <25% compression fx one vertebral body; 2. Posterior element fx without dislocation; 3. Spinous or transverse fx with displacement	or 1. 25%- 50% compression fx one vertebral body 2. Posterior element fx, with displacement	or >50% compression fx one vertebral body without residual neural compromise	or > 50% compression fx one vertebral body with unilateral neurological compromise	

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