



## Social Security (Tables for the Assessment of Work-related Impairment for Disability Support Pension) Determination 2011

**Table 3 – Lower Limb Function**

### Introduction to Table 3

- Table 3 is to be used where the person has a permanent condition resulting in functional impairment when performing activities requiring the use of legs or feet.
- The diagnosis of the condition must be made by an appropriately qualified medical practitioner.
- Self-report of symptoms alone is insufficient.
- There must be corroborating evidence of the person's impairment.
- Examples of corroborating evidence for the purposes of this Table include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a report from the person's treating doctor;
  - a report from a medical specialist confirming diagnosis of conditions associated with lower limb impairment (e.g. arthritis or other condition affecting lower limb joints, paralysis or loss of strength or sensation resulting from stroke or other brain or nerve injury, cerebral palsy or other condition affecting lower limb coordination, inflammation or injury of the muscles or tendons of the lower limbs, amputation or absence of whole or part of lower limb);
  - a report from an allied health practitioner (e.g. physiotherapist, occupational therapist or exercise physiologist) confirming the functional impairment;
  - results of diagnostic tests (e.g. X-Rays or other imagery);
  - results of physical tests or assessments showing impaired function of the lower limbs.
- For the purposes of this Table lower limbs extend from the hips to the toes.

| Points | Descriptors  |
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| 0      | <p><i>There is <b>no</b> functional impact on activities requiring use of the lower limbs.</i></p> <p>(1) The person can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) walk without difficulty on a variety of different terrains and at varying speeds; and</li> <li>(b) walk without difficulty around the home and community; and</li> <li>(c) kneel or squat and rise back to a standing position without difficulty; and</li> <li>(d) stand unaided for at least 10 minutes; and</li> <li>(e) use stairs without difficulty.</li> </ul> |

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| 5 | <p><i>There is a <b>mild</b> functional impact on activities using lower limbs.</i></p> <p>(1) At least one of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the person has some difficulty walking to local facilities (e.g. shops or bus-stop); or</li> <li>(b) the person has some difficulty walking around a shopping mall or supermarket without a rest; or</li> <li>(c) the person has some difficulty climbing stairs; and</li> </ul> <p>(2) At least one of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the person is unable to stand for more than 10 minutes;</li> <li>(b) the person can mobilise effectively but needs to use a lower limb prosthesis or a walking stick.</li> </ul> |
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| 10 | <p><i>There is a <b>moderate</b> functional impact on activities using lower limbs.</i></p> <p>(1) At least one of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the person is unable to walk far outside their home and needs to drive or get other transport to local shops or community facilities; or</li> <li>(b) the person is unable to use stairs or steps without assistance; or</li> <li>(c) the person is unable to stand for more than 5 minutes; and</li> </ul> <p>(2) The person is able to use public transport or a motor vehicle and walk around in a shopping centre or supermarket.</p> <p>(3) This impairment rating level includes a person who can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) move around independently using a wheelchair and can independently transfer to and from a wheelchair (e.g. can use a wheelchair accessible toilet independently); or</li> <li>(b) move around independently using walking aids (e.g. quad stick, crutches or walking frame).</li> </ul> <p><i>Note:</i> The person may require additional time and effort to move around a workplace, may need to use disabled access entries, lifts and toilets, and may not be able to access some areas of a workplace or training facility.</p> |
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| 20 | <p><i>There is a <b>severe</b> functional impact on activities using lower limbs.</i></p> <p>(1) The person:</p> <p>(a) is unable to do any of the following:</p> <p>(i) walk around a shopping centre or supermarket without assistance;</p> <p>(ii) walk from the carpark into a shopping centre or supermarket without assistance;</p> <p>(iii) stand up from a sitting position without assistance; and</p> <p>(b) requires assistance to use public transport.</p> <p>(2) This impairment rating level includes a person who requires assistance to:</p> <p>(a) move around in, or transfer to and from a wheelchair (e.g. the person needs personal care assistance to use a toilet); or</p> <p>(b) move around using walking aids (e.g. a quad stick, crutches or walking frame) i.e. the person needs assistance from another person to walk on some surfaces and could not move independently around a workplace or training facility, even when using a walking aid.</p> |
| 30 | <p><i>There is an <b>extreme</b> functional impact on activities using lower limbs.</i></p> <p>(1) The person is unable to mobilise independently.</p>   |