

CELIAC SERVICE CONNECTION PATHWAYS

Do not confuse a current diagnosis with proof of a service connection.



WHAT TO DOCUMENT

DIGESTIVE CLAIM FILE

DIRECT	Symptoms or onset in service Use service records, lay evidence, testing, continuity, and a medical explanation.	EXPOSURE	Evidence-specific theory Identify the claimed exposure and obtain a medical rationale rather than assuming a presumption.
SECONDARY	Separate medical mechanism Show how a service-connected condition or its treatment caused or aggravated celiac disease.	AGGRAVATION	Measurable worsening Identify baseline severity and the additional worsening attributed to the primary condition.

