



MIGRAINE CLAIMS

# COMMON MIGRAINE CLAIM MISTAKES

A calibrated guide to service connection, attack documentation, and the DC 8100 rating criteria.

CLINICAL FIELD REFERENCE

## FOUR POINTS TO UNDERSTAND

1

### COUNTING EVERY HEADACHE AS PROSTRATING

DC 8100 focuses on qualifying attacks, not the total number of mild and severe headaches combined.

2

### RELYING ON MEMORY ALONE

A log and consistent treatment record are stronger than reconstructing months of attacks during one exam.

3

### OMITTING NON-PAIN SYMPTOMS

VA must consider migraine symptoms beyond head pain, including sensory, gastrointestinal, cognitive, and vestibular effects.

4

### ASSERTING A SECONDARY LINK WITHOUT RATIONALE

A diagnosis and a service-connected primary condition do not automatically establish causation or aggravation.

Apply the current regulation and case law to the individual record. Attack frequency, severity, duration, and functional impact should be documented accurately and consistently.

