

FOOT CLAIMS

FOOT EVIDENCE GUIDE

An orthopedic blueprint for service connection, examination evidence, functional loss, and the current rating schedule.

STRUCTURAL FIELD REFERENCE

FOUR POINTS TO UNDERSTAND

EXAM

WEIGHT-BEARING FINDINGS

Document arch, pronation, weight-bearing line, Achilles alignment, tenderness, callosities, swelling, and gait.

TREATMENT

ORTHOTICS AND SURGERY RESPONSE

Record prescribed devices, compliance, relief, injections, therapy, recommendations, candidacy, and surgery.

IMAGING

X-RAY AND OPERATIVE RECORDS

Use imaging and surgery to establish diagnosis and structural history.

SERVICE

ENTRANCE AND SERVICE RECORDS

For direct or aggravation claims, compare baseline findings with in-service symptoms and current disability.

Use the regulation in effect for the rating period. Measure functional loss accurately, keep distinct manifestations separate, and avoid compensating the same symptom twice.