



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Veterans Benefits Administration  
Regional Office**

**VA File Number**

**Represented By:  
CHUCK R PARDUE  
Rating Decision  
03/10/2018**

**INTRODUCTION**

The records reflect that you are a veteran of the Gulf War Era and Peacetime. You served in the Navy from May 6, 1986, to May 31, 2007. You filed a claim for increased evaluation that was received on February 19, 2018. Based on a review of the evidence listed below, we have made the following decision(s) on your claim.

**DECISION**

1. Evaluation of gastroesophageal reflux disorder, which is currently 10 percent disabling, is increased to 30 percent effective February 19, 2018.
2. Evaluation of bilateral plantar fasciitis, which is currently 10 percent disabling, is increased to 30 percent effective February 19, 2018.

**EVIDENCE**

- (VAF 526EZ) application for disability compensation and related compensation benefits

- received 2-19-18
- disability benefits questionnaires received 2-19-18
  - VA exams by VES medical contractor 3/2018
  - medical records Eisenhower Army Medical Center received 3-9-18, for the period 6-1-07 to present
  - we conducted a search for any VA medical treatment records that might exist, but none were found

## **REASONS FOR DECISION**

### **1. Evaluation of gastroesophageal reflux disorder currently evaluated as 10 percent disabling.**

The evaluation of gastroesophageal reflux disorder is increased to 30 percent disabling effective February 19, 2018.

We have assigned a 30 percent evaluation for your gastroesophageal reflux disorder based on:

- Dysphagia
- Persistently recurrent epigastric distress
- Pyrosis (Heartburn and/or Reflux)
- Regurgitation
- Substernal pain
- Symptoms productive of considerable impairment of health

A higher evaluation of 60 percent is not warranted for hiatal hernia unless the evidence shows other symptom combinations productive of severe impairment of health or symptoms of pain, vomiting, material weight loss and hematemesis or melena with moderate anemia.

This disability is not specifically listed in the rating schedule; therefore, it is rated analogous to a disability in which not only the functions affected, but anatomical localization and symptoms, are closely related.

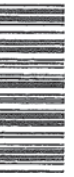
### **2. Evaluation of bilateral plantar fasciitis currently evaluated as 10 percent disabling.**

The evaluation of bilateral plantar fasciitis is increased to 30 percent disabling effective February 19, 2018.

We have assigned a 30 percent evaluation for your bilateral plantar fasciitis based on:

- Characteristic callosities
- Indication of swelling on use
- Pain on manipulation of the feet, accentuated
- Pain on use of the feet, accentuated

Additional symptom(s) include:



- Pain on manipulation of the feet
- Pain on use of the feet
- Symptoms NOT improved by orthopedic shoe or appliance

A higher evaluation of 50 percent is not warranted for acquired flat foot unless the evidence shows bilateral involvement with pronounced symptoms; marked pronation, extreme tenderness of plantar surfaces of the feet, marked inward displacement and severe spasm of the tendo achillis on manipulation, not improved by orthopedic shoes or appliances.

**REFERENCES:**

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our website, [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).