



AMA Guides® to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment

AMA Guides® are changing Q & A with Barry Gelinas, MD, DC

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AMA Guides Sixth 2024 is the most current version of the AMA Guides and AMA Guides Sixth. Educational support is available through [AMA EdHub™](#). The AMA Guides are maintained exclusively online at [AMAGuidesDigital.com](#).

Q Why are the AMA Guides the gold standard for evaluating permanent impairment?

The American Medical Association is committed to equitable treatment of every patient with the best available medicine. The *AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* incorporate science, evidence-based medicine and assessment tools to provide a rigorous methodology to enable physicians to provide a fair and consistent evaluation of patients who have suffered an illness or injury resulting in a permanent impairment. For more than half a century the AMA Guides have been the accepted authority on permanent impairment and are used by more than 40 states and several countries.

Q Why are updates necessary?

As new medical innovations become available, patient outcomes continue to improve, but not all areas of medicine evolve at the same pace. Consequently, equitable impairment evaluations require consistent use of the most current science.



Q How will the AMA assure fairness of updates?

A stakeholder-driven editorial process was created to ensure transparency and to deliver annual enhancements to the AMA Guides reflecting current evidence-based medical practice. The Panel, which is comprised of 12 leading physicians and advanced practice professionals and five advisors, is focusing editorial priorities on areas where additional guidance is most needed.

Q What is the AMA doing to advance the usability of the AMA Guides?

The AMA delivered AMA Guides Digital to enable content updates and to allow effortless online access across computers, mobile phones and tablets. Users can quickly search, share, and bookmark content. This digital version will help stakeholders easily adopt the AMA Guides Sixth updates. The AMA also is offering education through AMA EdHub™ to enable stakeholders to stay current.

Q What can I expect to change and how can I participate?

Interested parties and organizations who utilize the AMA Guides are invited to comment and propose changes. The AMA Guides Editorial Panel will consider all available information and comments prior to adopting updates to the AMA Guides.

If you would like to propose an [update](#), submit an [inquiry](#) to the AMA Guides team early in your proposal process. The Panel reviews all change proposals regardless of topic. To review all changes issued by the editorial panel, please visit AMA Guides Digital. A summary of changes is available on each version's table of contents page.

Q Can I be notified regarding upcoming AMA Guides Editorial Panel actions?

Join our mailing list to stay informed about virtual and in person Editorial Panel public meetings and to receive panel announcements.

More information on the AMA Guides

[Review Changes to AMA Guides Sixth 2024](#)

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