

### **Independent Medical Group 4 Veterans**

Evidence-Based DBQs and Nexus Opinions

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# Questionnaire Case Study #1: Finding What Wasn't on the Radar

## Background:

A Marine veteran came to IMG4VETS for help with a claim for back pain. He'd never filed for anything else and believed his only issue was orthopedic.

#### What IMG4VETS Did:

As part of the intake process, the veteran completed our proprietary symptom-based medical questionnaire. It flagged frequent headaches, ringing in the ears, and sleep disturbance—none of which had been previously documented in his claim file. Our reviewing physician noted these symptoms could indicate secondary conditions related to his service-connected back and neck injuries.

#### Outcome:

With guidance from his accredited representative, the veteran filed additional claims for migraines, tinnitus, and sleep apnea. All were granted, increasing his combined rating from 20% to 70%. The veteran later said, "I never would've thought to mention half of that if your form hadn't asked."

## Takeaway:

Veterans aren't doctors, and many have lived with untreated or undocumented symptoms for years. The IMG4VETS questionnaire identifies issues that may otherwise never surface—turning overlooked symptoms into recognized, compensable conditions.

Prepared by Independent Medical Group 4 Veterans