

3M Extraordinary Injury Fund - Case Review for **Patient Name – Order # 12345:**

Earplug Usage: 01/01/2003 – 10/21/2013

They are a **YES** for Category 3 - **Recorded Tinnitus**

1. Documentary proof/documentation must establish that the claimant reported tinnitus or had tinnitus onset (diagnosis, treatment, symptoms) any time between first use of earplugs to within 2 years of discharge from military.
 - Tinnitus – Service connected 10% - noted on 02/04/2020 (See Page 106 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Claimed condition of tinnitus is more likely than not (50% chance or greater) attributable to hazardous noise exposure and/or acoustic trauma while in the military as he already has a rating of 10 % for tinnitus and 0% rating for hearing loss in the left ear - noted on 02/05/2016 (See Page 1020 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Does the Veteran report recurrent tinnitus: Yes. – noted on 11/23/2015 (See Page 1082 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Patient is service-connected for hearing loss and tinnitus. He has periodic bilateral tinnitus that is slightly greater in the left ear.– noted on 04/01/2015 (See Page 1131 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Tinnitus with hearing loss – noted on 10/17/2014 (See Page 1158 of Record Name.pdf)

2. Documentation establishing at least one of the following: (TFI/THI, 3+ encounters related to tinnitus mgmt, Emergency specifying Tinnitus)
 - Patient stated that he was fit with two bluetooth compatible hearing aids and a streaming device through Ft. Riley a few years ago. (Previous hearing aids: Siemens PUR RICs, 2012). He has lost the right aid now. He has periodic bilateral tinnitus that seems greater in the left ear than the right. Patient's current hearing aid model is no longer on contract, both aids will be replaced. He is interested in the Bluetooth capabilities of the aids. Retest hearing in 1-2 years to monitor asymmetry and to obtain acoustic reflexes, if possible – noted on 04/01/2015 (See Page 1131 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Hearing aid fit and aural rehabilitation completed. Patient was fit with two GN Resound LiNX 9 TS RIC hearing aids with medium open domes. The program button is active. Hearing aid was set as first time user – noted on 05/04/2015 (See Page 1125 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Hearing barrier addressed by: patient hearing aid in place and functioning. -noted on 08/08/2016 (See Page 957 of Record Name.pdf)
 - Hearing barrier addressed by: patient hearing aid in place and functioning, verified patient is answering questions/responding appropriately to teaching. -noted on 02/10/2017 (See Page 957 of Record Name.pdf)