

The Importance of Medical Treatment in a Social Security Disability Claim

While it is possible for somebody who is not yet 50 years of age to obtain Social Security disability benefits, it is quite a bit more complicated than for somebody who is over 50 years of age. The burden of proof for a younger individual is that there is no work in the national economy that he/she can do. For somebody over 50, on the other hand, the only proof they need to provide is that they are no longer able to have the same vocation they did during the last fifteen years. Those people who do not have medical insurance of their own can visit Social Security doctors for evaluation. These Social Security doctors are not actually there to treat you, but to examine your case impartially and methodically. Because of this, having a record of treatment from independent (non Social Security) doctors is generally the best way to provide proof of your disability. Doctors that know you and know what you are going through.

If, however, you have no access to medical insurance, you have two different options for obtaining care. Your local county clinic and vocational rehabilitation. County clinics exist to provide care to those without medical insurance. When you first contact these clinics you should not immediately tell them of your medical problems. Often times, when the administrative staff hears about your complicated medical problems, they will tell you that they cannot help you because they do not have proper funding for your condition(s). When they hear of the depth of your disability, they may turn you away without letting you see even one doctor. Instead of providing a long medical history, when you speak to a county clinic, simply state that you are a person without medical insurance who needs to see a primary physician. Say nothing else. Then, when you get in to see the doctor, you can provide details about your condition and concerns. Often times, they will send you to specialists for your conditions and pay for it.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program, is a state funded program designed to help people be trained to do some type of work. However, before sending you off for training, this program will check your medical history and have you checked out by doctors associated with the program. They will pay for doctor visits, medications, tests and even surgeries and/or procedures, if warranted. When all this is finished, they will then decide whether or not they believe you can go to work. If at the end of the decision process the program determines you unable to work, they will then send you over to Social Security to apply for benefits. Having this happen can be really boost your Social Security disability claim, as a government vocational program has already determined you to be unfit to work. And as a "bonus," you have also received the treatments and medicines you needed without having to pay a penny. And, if a vocation rehabilitation program does decide that you are fit to work, they will help you find the employment you need. In this case, the medical records, etc., you obtained can still be used to prove your Social Security disability claim.

The truth is, it is incredibly difficult to get Social Security disability benefits if you are under 50 unless you have received medical treatment outside of Social Security. Therefore, you have to get into medical treatment as soon possible.

About the Author

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