

PRESCRIBED DISEASE A15: DUPUYTREN'S CONTRACTURE

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INTRODUCTION

1. This memo gives guidance on the introduction of a new prescribed disease, A15: Dupuytren's Contracture, introduced by the Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 (SS (II) (PD) (Amdt) Regs (NI) 19) (SR 2019 No 204). The changes are introduced following recommendations of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council and take effect on 9.12.19¹.

¹ SS (II) (PD) (Amdt) Regs (NI) 19, reg 1

DUPUYTREN'S CONTRACTURE

2. Dupuytren's contracture is a condition in which one or more fingers become permanently bent in a flexed position. It usually begins as small hard nodules just under the skin of the palm, then worsens over time until the fingers can no longer be straightened.

PRESCRIBED DISEASE A15

3. On 9.12.19 prescribed disease A15 is added to the list of prescribed diseases¹. The Appendix to this memo gives details of the definition and occupation.

¹ SS (II) (PD) Regs (NI), Sch 1 Part 1

PRESUMPTION

4. Where a person has contracted prescribed disease A15 there is a presumption¹, unless the contrary is proved, that the prescribed disease is due to the employed earner's employment if the person who has contracted a prescribed disease was employed in a prescribed occupation².

1 SS (II) (PD) Regs (NI), reg 4(2); 2 Sch 1, Part 1

REDUCED EARNINGS ALLOWANCE

5. There is no entitlement to Reduced Earnings Allowance in respect of prescribed disease A15 because the disease was prescribed after 10.10.94¹.

1 SS (II) (PD) Regs (NI), reg 14A

ANNOTATIONS

Please annotate the number of this memo (DMG Memo Vol 11/29) against DMG paragraphs:

67188, 67301 (heading), Appendix 1 (heading)

CONTACTS

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**Distribution: All holders of DMG
Volume 11**

November 2019

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APPENDIX

PD A15 is

Prescribed disease	Occupation
<p>Dupuytren's contracture of the hand resulting in fixed flexion deformity of one or more inter-phalangeal joints of one or more of the digits.</p>	<p>Any occupation involving the use of hand-held powered tools whose internal parts vibrate so as to transmit that vibration to the hand, but excluding those tools which are solely powered by hand, where</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="715 786 1193 936">(a) the use of those tools amounts to a period or periods in aggregate of at least 10 years<li data-bbox="715 972 1193 1155">(b) within that period or those periods, the use of those tools amounts to at least 2 hours per day for 3 or more days per week and<li data-bbox="715 1191 1193 1341">(c) the onset of the disease fell within the period or periods of use specified in this paragraph.