

Medical Care: an Important Step in the Social Security Disability Application

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. For those that are younger than 50, obtaining disability benefits is dependant on their ability to prove that there is no work they are currently able to do. For an older individual, they typically only have to prove that they can no longer do the work that they did in the past 15 years. If you do not have medical insurance, Social Security will send you to their doctors. Their doctors are not there to help you but to evaluate your case in a quick and methodical fashion. The best way to prove your case is to get treatment with your own doctors. 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. One of these is the county clinic in your county, and the other is a vocational rehabilitation center. County clinics exist to provide care to those without medical insurance. If you decide to use a county clinic, the best way to go about it is quietly: it is best not to tell them about your current disabilities. 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. Nothing more. Once you see the actual doctor, then you can tell him/her about all your medical conditions. 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. And if they feel it is needed, vocational programs may pay for visits to specialists and physicians, medicine, or even surgery on your behalf. 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 are 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. On the other hand if they believe that you can work then they will train you and help you find a job. The records from the doctors that vocational rehabilitation sent you to can also be used as evidence in support of your claim for disability benefits.

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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