

Medical Requirements

The list that follows is illustrative of injury and diseases of the spinal cord and cauda equina but is not all-inclusive. In the event an individual applies for membership with a diagnosis not specifically included on the list, the information in question will be referred to PVA's Chief Medical Director.

Organic Spinal Cord and Cauda Equina Lesions Through:
Injury – trauma with or without neuro deficits (complete or incomplete)

Diseases with or without neuro deficit residual:

- Infection: viral (e.g., poliomyelitis)
 bacterial (e.g., tuberculosis)
 Parasitic (e.g., schistosomiasis)
- Inflammation: (e.g., myelitis)
- Degenerative: (e.g., multiple sclerosis (MS);
 amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS))
- Tumors: benign (e.g., ependymoma)
 malignant (e.g., sarcoma)
- Cysts: (e.g., syrinx)
- Vascular: arteriosclerosis
 inflammatory (e.g., vasculitis)
 traumatic
 congenital (e.g., a.v. malformation)
- Autoimmune: (e.g., lupus)
- Congenital: (e.g., spina bifida)
- Constrictive: (e.g., spinal stenosis)

A veteran with any of the following pathological entities without involvement of the spinal cord or cauda equina is not eligible for membership.

CVA (stroke)
Osteoarthritis
Peripheral neuropathy
Toxic neuropathy (neuritis)
Amputation