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Social Security Disability Benefits and Fibromyalgia

Fibromyalgia is a musculoskeletal disorder that causes fatigue along with widespread muscle and joint pain. Over 5

million individuals in the U.S. suffer from this condition that most often affects women. Other symptoms include “fibro fog” with difficulty concentrating and memory lapses as well as anxiety and depression.

Those with fibromyalgia have chronic pain that makes it difficult to work, exercise and sleep. Current there is no single treatment that addresses all symptoms – and no cure.



Disability Claims for Those with Fibromyalgia are

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BLOG

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IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

From My Blog
Hollywood's Rich
Movie-Making History

PAGE 3

Recipe of the Month
Pesto Veggie Pizza

PAGE 4

What's Happening....

Complex

In the past, the Social Security Administration (SSA) required the presence of another disease like arthritis when an individual with fibromyalgia applied for [Social Security Disability \(SSDI\) benefits](#). Applicants with fibromyalgia were rarely approved for SSDI because there is no definitive cause for this condition and also because patients display widely varying symptoms.

SSA Issues Clarifying Eligibility Ruling in 2012

The SSA issued a welcomed ruling in July of 2012 that explains how individuals with fibromyalgia can qualify for SSDI. This ruling uses standards issued by the American College of Rheumatology and is very specific.

The ruling uses the following criteria to determine whether fibromyalgia is present:

- A history of chronic widespread pain including in the chest, neck or back, **and**
- Evidence such as examination notes and lab tests that shows that your doctor ruled out other diseases that have similar symptoms (for example, lupus, hypothyroidism and multiple sclerosis), **and**
- **One** of the following:
 - Tenderness when palpated by the doctor in at least 11 of 18 specified [tender point areas](#) of the body, **or**
 - Repeated occurrences of 6 or more symptoms

typically associated with fibromyalgia; some of these are memory or cognitive problems, anxiety, fatigue, depression, “fibro fog” or muscle weakness.

Make Your Case Stronger

Your SSDI application will be more successful when your fibromyalgia diagnosis is confirmed by a specialist like a rheumatologist or orthopedist. Review your case information by getting copies of medical records from all doctors and verify that test results and notes support your diagnosis.

Because establishing SSDI eligibility for someone with fibromyalgia can be so difficult, our experienced firm can help you or a family member get the [SSDI benefits](#) you deserve.

From My Blog

How to Begin the Workers’ Compensation Process

Injured employees who are unable to work while recovering are entitled to compensation for their medical bills and a portion of their lost wages. However, employees often struggle to get the support they need because of mistakes made during the [workers’ compensation](#) claim process. What you do immediately after an accident and in the following weeks will have a significant impact on your ability to receive fair compensation for the injuries you have suffered. [Read more](#)

Hollywood's Rich Movie-Making History

Thomas A. Edison may have patented the motion picture camera, but when he and companies like Eastman Kodak formed a near-monopoly in 1908 to produce movies, other filmmakers looked to the west. California judges were less friendly to the patents awarded to Edison and patent enforcement was tricky due to the expense of cross-country travel.



At the turn of the twentieth century, Hollywood was a sleepy agricultural community. Director D.W. Griffith's 1910 movie *In Old California* was the first movie filmed in Hollywood, chosen for its friendly people and beautiful scenery. Other filmmakers quickly followed his example. Hollywood has ideal weather and is close to camera-ready settings such as city, farms, mountains, ocean desert and orange groves.

Hollywood quickly became the center of motion pictures in America. Five major studios – Columbia, Metro Goldwyn Mayer, Paramount, RKO and Warner Brothers Pictures – took up residence. These entities not only created motion pictures but distributed and exhibited them in a stronghold called the studio system.

Hollywood became known as "Tinseltown" – a cultural icon underscoring leisure, luxury and scenes of excessive parties. But the studio system was

demolished in 1948 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the studios could not own movie theatres that played only their movies or their stars' movies.

Today “Hollywood” loosely applies to most film or television production in the Los Angeles area including Burbank and Culver City, while Paramount is the only major film studio still in Tinseltown. The Hollywood aura has survived World War II, the rise of television, more youth–oriented markets, social change and new technologies and special effects to remain a huge force in the global motion picture industry.

If you or a loved one has been denied [Worker's Compensation](#) or Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. **Call 800-438-7734** for your initial free consultation, either in our office or in the comfort of your own home. The Kenton Koszdin Law Office, [Social Security attorney in Van Nuys](#), can help you navigate the application process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.

Recipe of the Month:

Pesto Veggie Pizza



Ingredients

- 1 100 percent whole wheat thin pizza crust

- ½ cup pesto sauce
- ½ cup crumbled goat cheese
- 1 large tomato, sliced
- 12 pitted Kalamata olives

Directions:

Preheat oven according to crust's package directions. Spread the pesto sauce evenly over the crust. Top with sliced tomato, olives, and goat cheese. Bake according to crust's package directions. Makes 3 servings (2 slices each).

Recipe Courtesy: AllRecipes.com

What's Happening in Southern California in November 2015

Nov. 1, 2015

Giselle – ballet
Royce Hall, UCLA Campus, LA

Nov. 1, 2015

Happy Hallowiener-Doggie Dress Up
& Kid Costume party
Old World German Restaurant,
Huntington Beach

Nov. 1, 2015

Stan Lee's Comikaze convention
Convention Center, LA

Nov. 7 – 30, 2015

Hay Fever by Noel Coward
Long Beach Playhouse Theatre

Nov. 8, 2015

Fallback Festival
Gaslamp Quarter, San Diego

Nov. 9 – 10, 2015

The Mousetrap
Long Beach Playhouse Theatre

Nov. 13 – 16, 2015

Nov. 1 – 14, 2015

Bat Boy: The Musical
Long Beach Playhouse Theatre

Nov. 1 – 28, 2015

LA Opera: Moby Dick
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA

Nov. 5 – 8, 2015

Art San Diego
Balboa Park, San Diego

Nov. 6 – 7, 2015

Brewers Guild Festival
Port Pavilion, Broadway Pier, San Diego

Nov. 6 – 7, 2015

BlizzCon
Convention Center, Anaheim

Nov. 6 – 8, 2015

International Family Film Festival
Raleigh Studios, Hollywood

Nov. 6 – 8, 2015

Bent-Con
LA Marriott Burbank Airport
Convention Center, Burbank

Nov. 7, 2015

Winter Jam Spectacular
Long Beach Convention Center

Nov. 7, 2015

REVEL Canyon City

Realtors Conference & Expo
Convention Center, San Diego

Nov. 13 – 22, 2015

Disney's Beauty & the Beast
Pantages Theater, Hollywood

Nov. 14, 2015

BeachFest 5k, 10k, 15k, Half Marathon
5400 E. Ocean Blvd, Long Beach

Nov. 14, 2015

Outpost Festival
N Bush St & E 5th St. Santa Ana

Nov. 14, 2015

Mata Expo 2015
Grand Ballroom, Long Beach
Convention Center

Nov. 14, 2015

25th Anniversary: Quilting by the Sea
First United Methodist Church, Santa Monica

Nov. 15 – 22, 2015

San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival
Various locations, San Diego

Nov. 27, 2015

Festival of Lights
Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, Riverside

Nov. 28, 2015

Victor Manuelle concert

Azusa, LA

Microsoft Theater, LA



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