

## AMA Criteria for Permanent Impairment Associated with Cardiomyopathy

Overview: Pulmonary hypertension can result in impairment which can be quantified based on criteria developed by the AMA.

Parameters:

- (1) functional class for congestive heart failure
- (2) symptoms and response to therapy

<b>NYHA Functional Class (1964)</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>	<b>Impairment of the Whole Person</b>
Class 1	asymptomatic	0 - 9%
Class 1	asymptomatic with moderate dietary adjustment and drug therapy	10 – 29%
Class 2	symptoms partially responsive to moderate dietary adjustment and drug therapy	30 – 49%
Class 3 or 4	symptoms unresponsive to maximal dietary and medical therapy	50 – 100%

where:

- According to the AMA table functional Class 2 indicates symptomatic when activity is greater than normal. In the current NYHA classification a patient with Class 2 heart failure has symptoms with ordinary activities. The 1964 Class 2 corresponds to the current Class 1. This reflects the difference between the earlier classification and the revised classification introduced in later editions.
- Patients who have recovered from surgery for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or who have had a heart transplantation are classified based

References:

Cocchiarella L Andersson GBJ (editors). Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment Fifth Edition. American Medical Association. 2001. (Table 3-9 page 47; for functional class see Table 3-1 page 26).