



Nexus Determination

- There is reasonable evidence to opine a causal association between the claimed condition and an event, exposure or other stressor that occurred in service
- Causality: based on review of the probative evidence of record, current clinical evaluation and applicable medical facts/principles
- Probative evidence:
 - Tendency of a given item of evidence to prove or disprove a legal element of the case
 - Having the effect of proof, tending to proof, or actually proving



Nieves-Rodriguez v. Peake

22Vet. App. 295 (2008)

- ...most of the probative value of a medical opinion comes from its reasoning. Neither a VA medical examination report nor a private medical opinion is entitled to any weight in a service connection or rating context if it contains only data and conclusions..



Determining a Nexus

- History
- Examination
- Medical facts
- Scientific/ Medical literature review
- Reasoning
- Conclusion