

Specialty Examination – RHEUMATOLOGY

In instances when a Specialty Examination is requested, the Contractor shall provide the DDDS and its DDDS claimants with the following, in addition to, the Adult Physical Disability Evaluation and Report Guidelines.

The examination should concentrate on the areas affected by the DDDS claimant's illness or impairment. Provide specific information and be as descriptive as possible.

(1) **Rheumatology Examination.** Describe:

- (a) Hand dominance
- (b) Presence or absence of:
 - i. Effusion
 - ii. Inflammation and weakness
 - iii. Tenderness
 - iv. Heat
 - v. Redness
 - vi. Thickening of joints
 - vii. Nodules (growth under the skin)
 - viii. Rashes
- (c) Any muscle spasm, atrophy, or joint deformity
- (d) Structural deformities