

## Lower Limb Impairment from Gait Derangement

Overview: A deranged gait can result in impaired function for the person.

Patient Findings	Severity	Whole person impairment (%)
antalgic limp with shortened stance phase and documented moderate to advanced arthritic changes of hip knee or ankle	mild	7%
positive Trendelenberg sign and moderate to advanced osteoarthritis of hip		10%
requires part-time use of cane OR crutch for distance walking but not usually at home or in the workplace		15%
requires routine use of short leg brace (AFO)		15%
requires routine use of cane crutch OR long leg brace (KAFO)	moderate	20%
requires routine use of a cane OR crutch AND a short leg brace (AFO)		30%
requires routine use of 2 canes OR 2 crutches		40%
requires routine use of 2 canes OR 2 crutches AND a short leg brace (AFO)	severe	50%
requires routine use of 2 canes OR 2 crutches AND a long leg brace (KAFO)		60%
requires routine use of 2 canes OR 2 crutches AND 2 lower extremity braces (either AFOs or KAFOs)		70%
wheelchair dependent		80%

where:

- AFO = ankle-foot orthosis
- KAFO = knee-ankle-foot orthosis
- antalgic gait = limp with avoidance of weight-bearing on the affected side
- Trendelenburg sign (or test) = when standing on the affected leg the gluteal fold of the opposite side falls rather than rises

### References

American Medical Association. Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment Fourth Edition. 1995. pages 3/76.