

9-635.

A covered employee who is permanently totally disabled due to an accidental PERSONAL injury or an occupational disease shall be paid compensation in accordance with this Part V of this subtitle.

9-637.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, if a covered employee has a permanent total disability resulting from an accidental PERSONAL injury or an occupational disease, the employer or its insurer shall pay the covered employee compensation that equals two-thirds of the average weekly wage of the covered employee, but may not:

(i) exceed the State average weekly wage; or

(ii) be less than \$25.

(2) If the average weekly wage of the covered employee is less than \$25 at the time of the accidental PERSONAL injury or last injurious exposure to the occupational disease, the employer or its insurer shall pay the covered employee weekly compensation that equals the average weekly wage of the covered employee.

9-643.

A covered employee who has a hernia resulting from an accidental PERSONAL injury or a strain shall be paid compensation in accordance with this Part VI of this subtitle.

9-644.

(a) Whenever practicable, a femoral, inguinal, or other hernia proven to be the result of an accidental PERSONAL injury or strain in accordance with § 9-504 of this title shall be treated by surgery.

(d) If a covered employee who suffered a compensable hernia dies as a result of surgery, the death shall be considered death as a result of the accidental PERSONAL injury or strain that caused the hernia and the employer or its insurer shall provide death benefits in accordance with Part XII of this subtitle.

9-655.

This Part VIII of this subtitle does not apply to:

(1) a temporary partial disability;

(2) a temporary total disability; or

(3) a disability where the combined effects resulting from a previous impairment that meets the requirements of § 9-802(b)(1) of this title and a subsequent accidental PERSONAL injury or occupational disease result in a permanent disability exceeding 50% of the body as a whole.