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**19. Service connection for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) (also claimed as colon polypectomy and acid reflux).**

Service connection may be granted for a disability which began in military service or was caused by some event or experience in service. A disability which began in service or was caused by some event in service must be considered "chronic" before service connection can be granted. Service connection for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) (also claimed as colon polypectomy and acid reflux) is denied since there is no evidence a chronic condition exists.

All available service treatment records were reviewed and considered in this evaluation. A review of your available service treatment records shows evidence of complaints of esophageal reflux. Your colonoscopy was normal.

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At your VA Compensation and Pension Examination, you told the examiner that your symptoms include heartburn, epigastric pain, scapular pain, black-tarry stools, reflux and regurgitation with nausea and vomiting. You said your treatment includes Nexium and Prilosec. The examiner noted moderate reflux was shown on upper gastrointestinal series with no objective evidence of hiatal hernia. There was no objective evidence of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). The examiner did not provide a diagnosis because there was no current pathology to render a diagnosis.

In this case, there is no permanent residual or chronic disability subject to service connection shown by the service treatment records or demonstrated by the pre-discharge VA exam. In the absence of objective evidence demonstrating a current, chronic disability, service connection for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) (also claimed as colon polypectomy and acid reflux) is denied.