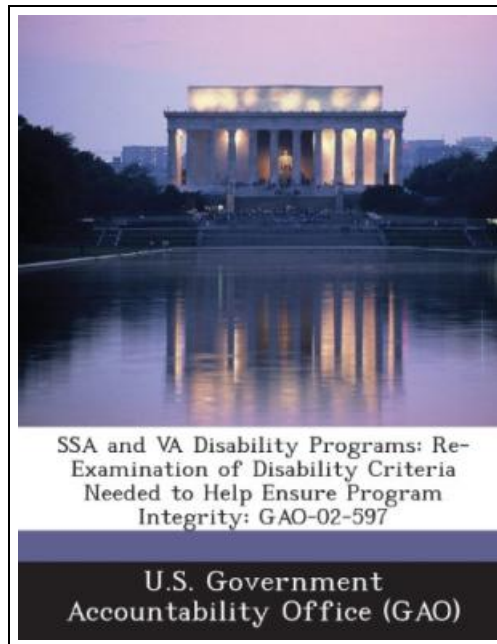


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Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The three largest disability programs collectively provided \$89.7 billion in cash benefits to 10.2 million adults in 2001. However, the Disability Insurance (DI) program, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, and VA disability criteria reflect neither medical and technological advances nor the labor market changes that affect the skills needed to perform work and work settings. If these federal disability programs do not update scientific and labor market information, they risk overestimating the limiting nature of some disabilities while underestimating others. Twelve years ago, both the Social Security Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began reviewing relevant medical advances and updating the criteria they use to evaluate claims. However, the time the agencies are taking to revise the medical criteria could undermine the very purpose of the update. Moreover, because of the limited role of treatment in the statutory and regulatory design of these programs, the updates have not fully captured the benefits afforded by advances in treatment. Also, the disability criteria used by DI, SSI, and VA programs have not incorporated labor market changes. These programs continue to use outdated information about the types and demands of jobs needed to determine the impact that impairments have on individuals earning capacity. To incorporate scientific advances and labor market changes into the DI, SSI, and VA programs, steps can be taken within the existing program design, but some would require more fundamental change. Agencies need to continue their medical updates and vigorously expand their efforts to more closely examine labor market changes. At a more fundamental level, SSA and VA could consider changes to the disability criteria that would revisit the programs basic orientation.



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