The evidence shows that sinusitis existed prior to service. There must be objective evidence of worsening of a preexisting condition in order to establish service connection by aggravation. There is no evidence that the condition permanently worsened as a result of service. (38 CFR 3.303, 38 CFR 3.304, 38 CFR 3.306)

Your service treatment records do not contain complaints, treatment, or diagnosis for this condition. The evidence does not show an event, disease or injury in service. (38 CFR 3.303, 38 CFR 3.304) The evidence does not show that your condition, which existed prior to service permanently worsened as a result of service. (38 CFR 3.306)

We received your medical evidence from the VA Medical Center at Danville along with your private treatment records from Carle Health System and correspondence from April Williams which discusses the symptoms of your medical condition. However, the VA medical opinion found no link between your diagnosed medical condition and military service. The examiner stated, DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, shows active military service from 1998-2005. Report of medical history and exam on September 9, 1997, for enlistment was negative for pre-service ear, nose and throat (ENT) conditions. Report of medical history and exam on July 28, 2005, for separation was negative for evidence of aggravation of claimed sinusitis condition. Compensation and pension exam on December 23, 2021, was negative for ENT condition and sinus x-ray was negative for sinusitis condition. Medical record review did not reveal continuous ongoing medical treatment or aggravation of acute or chronic sinusitis condition during time of discharge from active military service to present day. The Veteran's claimed sinusitis was not aggravated beyond its natural progression by entrance exam shows - nasal decongestant needed for runny nose during service.

Therefore, service connection for sinusitis is denied.

Favorable Findings identified in this decision:

The claimed issue existed prior to military service. Your entrance examination dated September 9, 1997, shows you were taking nasal decongestant for a runny nose.

You have been diagnosed with a disability. QTC examination dated December 23, 2021, shows a diagnosis of acute sinusitis.

**REFERENCES:**

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all Veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our website, www.va.gov.