

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

Section 196G of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

The Repatriation Medical Authority (the Authority) gives notice under section 196G of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act) that it intends to carry out an investigation under section 196B(7) of the Act to review the contents of Statements of Principles concerning **rheumatoid arthritis** (Instrument Nos.126 and 127 of 1996).

The Authority invites the following persons and organisations to make written submissions to the Authority in respect of the investigation:

- any person eligible to make a claim for pension under Part II or Part IV of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*;
- any organisation representing veterans, Australian mariners, members of the Forces, members of the Peacekeeping Forces or their dependants;
- the Repatriation Commission; and
- any person having expertise in a field relevant to the investigation.

The Authority will hold its first meeting for the purposes of this investigation on **24 March 2003**.

Under the Act, the Authority is required to find out whether there is new information available about how rheumatoid arthritis may be contracted or death from rheumatoid arthritis may occur; or the extent to which rheumatoid arthritis or death from rheumatoid arthritis may be war-caused or defence-caused. Persons and organisations wishing to make a submission should obtain from the Repatriation Medical Authority Secretariat (at the address and phone number below) a copy of the *Repatriation Medical Authority Submission Guidelines*.

All submissions must be in writing and received by the Authority at the address below no later than **10 March 2003**.

The Common Seal of the
Repatriation Medical Authority
was affixed in the presence of

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KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN

5/11/2002

The Repatriation Medical Authority
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