

Statement of Principles

concerning

ALKAPTONURIA

ICD CODE: 270.2

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(3)

1. Being of the view that, on the sound medical-scientific evidence available to the Repatriation Medical Authority, it is more probable than not that **alkaptonuria and death from alkaptonuria** can be related to eligible war service (other than operational service) rendered by veterans and defence service (other than hazardous service) rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **alkaptonuria or death from alkaptonuria** is connected with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) suffering physical trauma before the clinical worsening of alkaptonuric arthritis; or
 - (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the alkaptonuria.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to (b)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) and 1(b)** apply only where:
 - (a) the person's **alkaptonuria** was suffered prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and

- (b) the relationship suggested between the **alkaptonuria** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e) or 70(5)(d) of the Act.

4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

“**alkaptonuria**” means a rare inherited metabolic disorder of tyrosine catabolism in which a deficiency in homogentistic acid oxidase leads to excretion of large amounts of homogentistic acid in urine and accumulation of oxidised homogentistic pigment in connective tissue, attracting ICD code 270.2;

“**ICD code**” means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the tenth edition of the *International Classification of Diseases* 9th Revision, effective date of 1 October 1993, copyrighted by the US Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities, and having the Library of Congress number 77-94472;

“**physical trauma**” means an injury to the body caused by the force of an extraneous physical or mechanical agent.

Dated this day of 1995

The Common Seal of the)
Repatriation Medical Authority)
was affixed to this instrument)
in the presence of:)

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN