

## REVOKED

# Statement of Principles concerning **CHRONIC PANCREATITIS**

ICD CODE: 577.1

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **chronic pancreatitis** and **death from chronic pancreatitis** can be related to operational service rendered by veterans, peacekeeping service rendered by members of Peacekeeping forces and hazardous service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **chronic pancreatitis** or **death from chronic pancreatitis** with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) psychoactive substance abuse involving alcohol for the five years preceding the clinical diagnosis of chronic pancreatitis; or
  - (b) undergoing renal, hepatic or cardiac transplantation before the clinical onset of chronic pancreatitis; or
  - (c) suffering trauma to the pancreas which resulted in a disturbed anatomical structure of the ductal system, before the clinical onset of chronic pancreatitis; or

- (d) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation to the upper abdomen before the clinical onset of chronic pancreatitis; or
  - (e) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the chronic pancreatitis.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(e)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
  3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(e)** applies only where:
    - (a) the person's **chronic pancreatitis** was contracted prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
    - (b) the relationship suggested between the **chronic pancreatitis** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d), or 70(5A)(d) of the Act.
  4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**“chronic pancreatitis”** means a chronic inflammatory condition typically presenting with chronic abdominal pain and a progressive fibrosis of the pancreas with loss of exocrine (steatorrhea) and endocrine (diabetes mellitus) function, attracting ICD code 577.1;

**“DSM-IV”** means the fourth edition of the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*;

**“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.

**“psychoactive substance abuse involving alcohol”** means a maladaptive pattern of use, as derived from DSM-IV, attracting ICD code 303 or 304, that is indicated by either:

- (a) continued use of the substance despite knowledge of having a persistent or recurrent social, occupational, psychological or physical problem that is caused or exacerbated by use of the substance; or
- (b) recurrent use of the substance when use is physically hazardous (for example, driving while intoxicated).

