

REVOKED

Statement of Principles

concerning

AORTIC STENOSIS

ICD CODES: 093.22, 395.0, 395.2, 424.1, 746.3

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **aortic stenosis** and **death from aortic stenosis** 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 **aortic stenosis** or **death from aortic stenosis** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) suffering from rheumatic fever before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (b) suffering from infective endocarditis before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (c) suffering from systemic lupus erythematosus before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (d) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation to the mediastinum before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (e) suffering from syphilis before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or

- (f) suffering from rheumatic fever before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (g) suffering from infective endocarditis before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (h) suffering from systemic lupus erythematosus before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (j) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation to the mediastinum before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (k) suffering from syphilis before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (m) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for aortic stenosis.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(m)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factors set out in paragraphs **1(f) to 1(m)** apply only where:
- (a) the person's **aortic stenosis** was contracted before a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
 - (b) the relationship suggested between the **aortic stenosis** 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:
- “aortic stenosis”** means obstruction of flow across the aortic valve during left ventricular systolic ejection, attracting ICD code 093.22, 395.0, 395.2, 424.1, or 746.3;

“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;

“infective endocarditis” means an inflammation of the endocardium (excluding rheumatic endocarditis) caused by a range of bacterial, viral, fungal or other agents attracting ICD code 421, 424.9, 074.22, 098.84, 036.42, 112.81, 115.04, 115.14 or 115.94;

“rheumatic fever” means a febrile disease occurring as a delayed sequela of infections with group A beta-hemolytic streptococci and characterised by multiple focal inflammatory lesions of connective tissue especially involving the heart, blood vessels and joints with resultant arthritis, chorea, or carditis appearing alone or in combination, and attracting ICD codes 390, 391, or 392;

“syphilis” means a systemic infection with the organism *Treponema pallidum*, attracting an ICD code in the range 090 to 097 (Note: syphilitic aortic stenosis attracts ICD code 093.22);

“systemic lupus erythematosus” is a connective tissue disease in which cells are damaged by pathogenic autoantibodies and immune complexes, attracting ICD code 710.0;

“therapeutic radiation” means medical treatment by irradiation of parts of the body with gamma rays, x-rays, alpha particles or beta particles.

Dated this *Eighth* day of *March* 1995

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN