

## Statement of Principles

concerning

# ACCIDENTAL HYPOTHERMIA

ICD CODE: 991.6

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **accidental hypothermia** and **death from accidental hypothermia** 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* (the Act), that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **accidental hypothermia** or **death from accidental hypothermia** with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) being exposed to low environmental temperature at the time of the clinical onset of accidental hypothermia; or
  - (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for accidental hypothermia.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(b)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.

