

# Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

## **ASTHMA**

**ICD CODE: 493**

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(3)

The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.60 of 1996, (Statement of Principles concerning asthma), by:

1. omitting the definition of "asthma" in paragraph (b) of clause 2 and replacing it with the following:

“(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles '**asthma**' means a disease characterised by an increased responsiveness of the trachea and bronchi to various stimuli and is manifested by a widespread narrowing of the airways that changes in severity, either spontaneously or as a result of therapy, attracting ICD code 493. Key features of asthma include the reversibility of obstruction and the increased responsiveness of the airways. The airflow obstruction may be completely or only partially reversible. The increased responsiveness means that bronchoconstriction may be triggered by a variety of stimuli which may have little or no effect on normal airways.”.

2. omitting the definition of “ICD code” in paragraph 7 and replacing it with the following:

“**ICD code**’ means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the Australian Version of The International Classification of Diseases, 9th revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), effective date of 1 July 1996, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 24447 2;”.

3. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.60 of 1996 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this **Ninth** day of **September**  
1997

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN