

REVOKED

Revocation and Determination

of

Statement of Principles concerning

MULTIPLE MYELOMA

ICD CODE: 203.0

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(2)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act):
 - (a) revokes Instrument No.1 of 1995; and
 - (b) determines the following Statement of Principles.

Kind of injury, disease or death

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **multiple myeloma** and **death from multiple myeloma**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, “**multiple myeloma**” means a disseminated plasma cell neoplasm of the osseous system, attracting ICD code 203.0, associated with widespread lesions of the skeletal system, hyperglobulinaemia, Bence-Jones proteinuria and normochromic, normocytic anaemia, and also includes the conditions known as myelomatosis and plasma cell myeloma.

Basis for determining the factors

3. The Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **multiple myeloma and death from multiple myeloma** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans, members of Peacekeeping Forces, or members of the Forces.

Factors that must be related to service

4. Subject to clause 6, the factors set out in at least one of the paragraphs in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

Factors

5. The factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **multiple myeloma** or **death from multiple myeloma** with the circumstances of a person's relevant service are:
 - (a) being within 4 kilometres of the epicentre of the atomic explosions on the city of Hiroshima or Nagasaki within seven days of the explosions on those cities, before the clinical onset of multiple myeloma; or
 - (b) being occupationally required to work as a painter for an average of three or more days per week over any two year period, (or working as a painter for a period or periods of time totalling at least 312 days) before the clinical onset of multiple myeloma, and where that occupational exposure has ceased, the clinical onset of multiple myeloma has occurred within 20 years of cessation; or
 - (c) being exposed to herbicides in Vietnam before the clinical onset of multiple myeloma; or
 - (d) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for multiple myeloma.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

6. Paragraph 5(d) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, multiple myeloma where the person's multiple myeloma was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service; paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d) or 70(5A)(d) of the Act refers.

Other definitions

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

“being exposed to herbicides in Vietnam” may be said to have occurred only if the person had:

- (a) rendered more than 30 days service on land in Vietnam; or

- (b) regularly eaten fish, fish products, crustaceans, shellfish, or meat from Vietnam; or
- (c) regularly eaten food cooked with water from Vietnam discoloured by sediment, or regularly drunk water from Vietnam discoloured by sediment; or
- (d) regularly inhaled dust in a defoliated area in Vietnam or regularly inhaled herbicide fog in Vietnam; or
- (e) sprayed or decanted herbicides in Vietnam as an occupational requirement;

“**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;

“**relevant service**” means:

- (a) operational service; or
- (b) peacekeeping service; or
- (c) hazardous service.

Application

8. This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120A of the Act applies.

Dated this **Twenty-sixth** day of
September 1996

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