

Revocation and Determination

of

Statement of Principles concerning

MENIERE'S DISEASE

ICD CODE: 386.0

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act):
 - (a) revokes Instrument No.258 of 1995; and
 - (b) determines the following Statement of Principles.

Kind of injury, disease or death

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **Meniere's disease and death from Meniere's disease**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, "**Meniere's disease**" means a clinical condition characterised by fluctuating hearing loss, tinnitus, a sense of fullness in the involved ear associated with recurring attacks of rotational vertigo of sudden onset, often associated with nausea and vomiting, attracting ICD code 386.0.

Note: This definition includes the conditions known as endolymphatic hydrops and Meniere's syndrome. Labyrinthitis, vertigo of central origin and other unspecified vertiginous syndromes are excluded from this definition.

Basis for determining the factors

3. On the sound medical-scientific evidence available, the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that it is more probable than not that

Meniere's disease and death from Meniere's disease can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces.

Factors that must be related to service

4. Subject to clause 6, the factor set out in the paragraph in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

Factors

5. The factor that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **Meniere's disease** or **death from Meniere's disease** is connected with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:
 - (a) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for Meniere's disease.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

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

Other definitions

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

"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) eligible war service (other than operational service); or
- (b) defence service (other than hazardous service).

Application

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

Dated this **Twentieth** day of **February**
1997

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN