

## Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

# **MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE RECTUM**

**ICD CODES: 154.0, 154.1**

### Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.26 of 1996, (Statement of Principles concerning malignant neoplasm of the rectum), by:
  - A. omitting the definition of "malignant neoplasm of the rectum" in paragraph 2(b) and replacing it with the following definition:

“(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, '**malignant neoplasm of the rectum**' means a primary malignant neoplasm arising from the cells of the rectum, attracting ICD code 154.0 or 154.1, but excluding soft tissue sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease. The rectum is defined as the distal portion of the large intestine, extending from the rectosigmoid junction (anterior to the third sacral vertebra) and ending at the junction with the anal canal.

Notes to user (these notes do not form part of this instrument):

1. If the primary malignant neoplasm arises on or close to the rectosigmoid junction, such that its site of origin cannot be determined, the factors for both the malignant neoplasm of the colon and the malignant neoplasm of the rectum Statements of Principles should be considered.

2. If soft tissue sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma or Hodgkin's disease of the rectum is claimed, reference is to be made to the relevant Statement of Principles for that disease.”;

B. omitting paragraph 5(b) and replacing it with the following:

“(b) smoking cigarettes or other tobacco products, where the equivalent of at least 15 pack years was consumed 30 years or more before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the rectum; or”;

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

“**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;”.

2. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.26 of 1996 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this *Twenty-second* day of *January*  
1998

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN