

Amendment of Statement of Principles  
concerning

**THORACIC SPONDYLOSIS**

**ICD-10-AM CODES:  
M47.14, M47.15, M47.24, M47.25,  
M47.84, M47.85, M47.94, M47.95, M51.3**

*Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.49 of 2002 by:
  - A. in paragraph 5, deleting factor (f) and factor (s) and inserting in their place the following factor:
    - “(f) suffering an injury to the thoracic spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability of the thoracic spine before the clinical onset of thoracic spondylosis; or”
    - “(s) suffering an injury to the thoracic spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability of the thoracic spine before the clinical worsening of thoracic spondylosis; or”
  - B. in paragraph 8, deleting the definition of “**permanent ligamentous instability**” and inserting in its place the following definition:

“**permanent ligamentous instability of the thoracic spine**’ means radiological evidence on flexion and extension lateral radiographs of anteroposterior motion of one vertebra over another that is greater than 2.5 mm in the thoracic spine;”

2. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.49 of 2002 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this *Twenty-First* day of *November* 2002

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN