

**Revocation and Determination**  
of  
**Statement of Principles**  
concerning

**HAEMORRHOIDS**

for the purposes of the

*Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*  
and  
*Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** and **(8)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA):
  - (a) revokes Instrument No. 14 of 2000; and
  - (b) determines in its place the following Statement of Principles.

**Kind of injury, disease or death**

2.
  - (a) This Statement of Principles is about **haemorrhoids** and **death from haemorrhoids**.
  - (b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, **“haemorrhoids”** means symptomatic dilatation of the superior or inferior haemorrhoidal plexus. This definition does not include anorectal varices.
  - (c) Haemorrhoids attracts ICD-10-AM code I84, O22.4, O87.2.
  - (d) In the application of this Statement of Principles, the definition of **“haemorrhoids”** is that given at paragraph 2(b) above.

### **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 **haemorrhoids** and **death from haemorrhoids** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces under the VEA, or members under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (the MRCA).

### **Factors that must be related to service**

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

### **Factors**

5. The factor that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **haemorrhoids** or **death from haemorrhoids** is connected with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:
  - (a) being pregnant within the two weeks before the clinical onset of haemorrhoids; or
  - (b) straining at stool due to constipation or diarrhoea within the two weeks before the clinical onset of haemorrhoids; or
  - (c) having a spinal cord injury at the time of the clinical onset of haemorrhoids; or
  - (d) being pregnant within the two weeks before the clinical worsening of haemorrhoids; or
  - (e) straining at stool due to constipation or diarrhoea within the two weeks before the clinical worsening of haemorrhoids; or
  - (f) having a spinal cord injury at the time of the clinical worsening of haemorrhoids; or
  - (g) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for haemorrhoids.

### **Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation**

6. Paragraphs **5(d)** to **5(g)** apply only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, haemorrhoids where the person's haemorrhoids was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service.

## **Inclusion of Statements of Principles**

7. In this Statement of Principles if a relevant factor applies and that factor includes an injury or disease in respect of which there is a Statement of Principles then the factors in that last mentioned Statement of Principles apply in accordance with the terms of that Statement of Principles.

## **Other definitions**

8. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**“death from haemorrhoids”** in relation to a person includes death from a terminal event or condition that was contributed to by the person’s haemorrhoids;

**“ICD-10-AM code”** means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), Fourth Edition, effective date of 1 July 2004, copyrighted by the National Centre for Classification in Health, Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 1 86487 594 1;

**“relevant service”** means:

- (a) eligible war service (other than operational service) under the VEA; or
- (b) defence service (other than hazardous service) under the VEA; or
- (c) peacetime service under the MRCA;

**“spinal cord injury”** means an injury to the long tracts of the spinal cord resulting in permanent motor or sensory deficits below the level of the lesion;

**“terminal event”** means the proximate or ultimate cause of death and includes:

- (a) pneumonia;
- (b) respiratory failure;
- (c) cardiac arrest;
- (d) circulatory failure; or
- (e) cessation of brain function.

**Application**

9. This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120B of the VEA or section 339 of the MRCA applies.

Dated this *seventh* day of *October* 2004

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN