



**Australian Government**  
**Repatriation Medical Authority**

**Amendment Statement of Principles**  
concerning

**MYELODYSPLASTIC DISORDER**

**No. 46 of 2011**

for the purposes of the

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

1. This Instrument may be cited as Statement of Principles concerning myelodysplastic disorder No. 46 of 2011.
2. The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(8) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, Statement of Principles concerning myelodysplastic disorder Instrument No. 38 of 2006 by:
  - (A) Replacing existing factors "(b)", "(c)" and "(d)" in clause 6 with the following:
    - "(b) having received a cumulative equivalent dose of at least 0.05 sievert of ionising radiation to the bone marrow at least two years before the clinical onset of myelodysplastic disorder; or";
    - "(c) undergoing treatment with radioactive iodine for cancer before the clinical onset of myelodysplastic disorder, where the first exposure occurred at least two years before the clinical onset of myelodysplastic disorder; or"; and
    - "(d) undergoing treatment with radioactive phosphorus for a myeloproliferative disorder before the clinical onset of

myelodysplastic disorder, where the first exposure occurred at least two years before the clinical onset of myelodysplastic disorder; or";

(B) Replacing the existing definition of "cumulative equivalent dose" in clause 9 with the following:

**"cumulative equivalent dose"** means the total dose of ionising radiation received by the particular organ or tissue. The formula used to calculate the cumulative equivalent dose allows doses from multiple types of ionising radiation to be combined, by accounting for their differing biological effect. The unit of equivalent dose is the sievert. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, the calculation of cumulative equivalent dose excludes doses received from normal background radiation, but includes therapeutic radiation, diagnostic radiation, cosmic radiation at high altitude, radiation from occupation-related sources and radiation from nuclear explosions or accidents; and

(C) Deleting the definitions of "a course of therapeutic radiation" and "atomic radiation" from clause 9.

3. The amendment made by this instrument applies to all matters to which Instrument No. 38 of 2006, section 120B of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and section 339 of the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* apply.

4. The amendment made by this instrument takes effect from 25 May 2011.

Dated this *ninth* day of *May* 2011

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRPERSON