

Statement of Principles

concerning

**SEBORRHOEIC KERATOSIS**

**No. 56 of 2015**

for the purposes of the

*Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986*

and

*Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*

Title

**1.** This Instrument may be cited as Statement of Principles concerning seborrhoeic keratosis No. 56 of 2015.

Determination

**2.** The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** and **(8)** of the *Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA):

(a) revokes Instrument No. 32 of 2006 concerning seborrhoeic keratosis; and

(b) determines in its place this Statement of Principles.

Kind of injury, disease or death

**3.** (a) This Statement of Principles is about **seborrhoeic keratosis** and **death from seborrhoeic keratosis**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, **"seborrhoeic keratosis"** means a benign, non-invasive skin tumour with histopathological features including hyperkeratosis, acanthosis and papillomatosis with horny invaginations known as pseudo-horn cysts. Proliferation of squamous cells and basaloid cells occurs in the acanthotic epidermis. This lesion commonly presents as a soft, friable plaque that shows slight to marked pigmentation, and displays a "stuck on" appearance macroscopically.

(c) Seborrhoeic keratosis attracts ICD-10-AM code L82.

(d) In the application of this Statement of Principles, the definition of **"seborrhoeic keratosis"** is that given at paragraph 3(b) above.

Basis for determining the factors

**4.** After examining the available sound medical-scientific evidence the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that it is more probable than not on the sound medical-scientific evidence available, that the only factor that can be related to the cause of or material contribution to or aggravation of **seborrhoeic keratosis** or **death from seborrhoeic keratosis** and which 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) is that set out in clause 5.

Factors that must be related to service

**5.** The factor that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, in relation to the circumstances of a person’s relevant service causing or materially contributing to or aggravating **seborrhoeic keratosis** or **death from seborrhoeic keratosis** is inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for seborrhoeic keratosis.

Other definitions

**6.** For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**"death from seborrhoeic keratosis"** in relation to a person includes death from a terminal event or condition that was contributed to by the person’s seborrhoeic keratosis;

**"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), Eighth Edition, effective date of 1 July 2013, copyrighted by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, and having ISBN 978-1-74128-213-9;

**"relevant service"** means:

(a) eligible war service (other than operational service) under the VEA;

(b) defence service (other than hazardous service and British nuclear test defence service) under the VEA; or

(c) peacetime service under the MRCA;

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

1. pneumonia;
2. respiratory failure;
3. cardiac arrest;
4. circulatory failure; or
5. cessation of brain function.

Application

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

Date of effect

**8.** This Instrument takes effect from 30 March 2015.

Dated this twenty-seventh day of February 2015

The Common Seal of the )

Repatriation Medical Authority )

was affixed at the direction of: )

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO

CHAIRPERSON