

Statement of Principles  
concerning  
**PORPHYRIA CUTANEA TARDA**

ICD CODE: 277.1

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(3)

1. Being of the view that, on the sound medical-scientific evidence available to the Repatriation Medical Authority, it is more probable than not that **porphyria cutanea tarda and death from porphyria cutanea tarda** can be related to eligible war service rendered by veterans and defence service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **porphyria cutanea tarda or death from porphyria cutanea tarda** is connected with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) decanting, mixing, applying or ingesting polychlorinated aromatic hydrocarbons before the clinical onset of porphyria cutanea tarda; or
  - (b) having psychoactive substance abuse involving alcohol before the clinical onset of porphyria cutanea tarda; or
  - (c) having active viral hepatitis before the clinical onset of porphyria cutanea tarda; or

- (d) having HIV-1 infection before the clinical onset of porphyria cutanea tarda; or
  - (e) being exposed to sunlight without adequate protective clothing before the clinical worsening of porphyria cutanea tarda; or
  - (f) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the porphyria cutanea tarda.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to (f)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factors set out in paragraphs **1(e) and (f)** apply only where:
- (a) the person's **porphyria cutanea tarda** was contracted prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
  - (b) the relationship suggested between the **porphyria cutanea tarda** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e) or 70(5)(d) of the Act.
4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**“active viral hepatitis”** means infection with Hepatitis A, B, C, D, or E with signs or symptoms or pathological tests indicating active inflammation of the liver, attracting ICD code 70;

**“HIV-1 infection”** means serological evidence of infection with human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1, attracting an ICD code in the range 42 to 44 (inclusive);

**“ICD code”** means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the tenth edition of the *International Classification of Diseases* 9th Revision, effective date of 1 October 1993, copyrighted by the US Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities, and having the Library of Congress number 77-94472;

**“polychlorinated aromatic hydrocarbons”** means chemical compounds containing a benzene ring and multiple chlorine atoms;

**“porphyria cutanea tarda”** means a disease with abnormalities of porphyrin metabolism with dermatological manifestations, attracting an ICD code of 277.1;

