

Determination

of

Statement of Principles
concerning

**MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE SMALL
INTESTINE**

ICD CODE: 152

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. This Statement of Principles is determined by the Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act).

Kind of injury, disease or death

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine** and **death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, **“malignant neoplasm of the small intestine”** means a primary malignancy of the small intestine, which is the proximal portion of the intestine, extending from the pyloric opening of the stomach to the ileocaecal junction, and comprises the duodenum, jejunum and ileum, attracting ICD code 152.

Note: This definition specifically excludes soft tissue sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease.

Note to user (this note does not form part of the legal wording of the instrument):

In the event that a disease referred to in the note above (which is excluded from coverage by this Statement of Principles) is claimed, reference should be made to the relevant Statement of Principles (or Statements of Principles) which cover or refer to that disease (if any).

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 **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine and death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces.

Factors that must be related to service

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

Factors

5. The factors that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine or death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine** is connected with the circumstances of a person's relevant service are:
 - (a) for adenocarcinoma of the small intestine only,
 - (i) suffering from Crohn's disease of the small intestine before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine; or
 - (ii) suffering from coeliac disease before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine; or
 - (iii) the presence of familial adenomatous polyposis or adenomatous polyps in the small intestine before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine; or
 - (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the small intestine.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

6. Paragraph 5(b) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, malignant neoplasm of the small intestine where the person's malignant neoplasm of the small intestine was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service; paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e) or 70(5)(d) of the Act refers.

Other definitions

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

“adenocarcinoma” means a malignancy derived from glandular tissue or in which the tumour cells form recognisable glandular structures;

“coeliac disease” means a malabsorptive disease of the small intestine precipitated by the ingestion of gluten-containing foods, which results in characteristic changes in the small intestinal epithelium and is characterised in its advanced form by diarrhoea, steatorrhoea, abdominal distention, and abnormal tests of absorptive function, attracting ICD code 579.0. It is also known as gluten enteropathy and non-tropical sprue;

“Crohn's disease” means a type of inflammatory bowel disease affecting any part of the gastrointestinal tract, which is characterised by chronic inflammation which may extend through all layers of the gastrointestinal tract wall, and is also known as regional enteritis, attracting ICD code 555;

“familial adenomatous polyposis” means an inherited autosomal dominant disorder characterised by the formation of numerous (hundreds or thousands) adenomas, usually colorectal although extracolonic manifestations may occur, attracting ICD code 211.3;

“ICD code” means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the Australian Version of The International Classification of Diseases, 9th revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), effective date of 1 July 1996, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 24447 2;

“relevant service” means:

- (a) eligible war service (other than operational service); or
- (b) defence service (other than hazardous service);

“adenomatous polyps in the small intestine” means benign epithelial tumours in which the cells form recognisable glandular structures and which arise in the mucous membrane of the small intestine, excluding familial adenomatous polyposis, attracting ICD code 211.2.

Dated this *Ninth* day of *December* 1996

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN