



Australian Government
Repatriation Medical Authority

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION
Section 196G of the
Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

The Repatriation Medical Authority (the Authority) gives notice under section 196G of the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (the VEA) that it intends to carry out an investigation pursuant to subsection 196B(4) of the VEA to find out whether Statements of Principles may be determined in respect of optochiasmatic arachnoiditis.

The Authority invites the following persons and organisations to make written submissions to the Authority in respect of the investigation:

- a person eligible to make a claim for pension under Part II or Part IV of the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986;
a person eligible to make a claim for compensation under section 319 of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (the MRCA);
an organisation representing veterans, Australian mariners, members of the Forces, members of the Peacekeeping Forces, members within the meaning of the MRCA, or their dependants;
the Repatriation Commission or the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission; and
a person having expertise in a field relevant to the investigation.

The Authority will hold its first meeting for the purposes of this investigation on 14 April 2015.

Under the VEA, the Authority is required to find out whether there is information available about how optochiasmatic arachnoiditis may be suffered or contracted, or death from optochiasmatic arachnoiditis may occur, and the extent to which optochiasmatic arachnoiditis or death from optochiasmatic arachnoiditis may be war-caused, defence-caused, a service injury, a service disease or a service death. Persons and organisations wishing to make a submission should obtain a copy of the RMA Submission Guidelines from the RMA website [www.rma.gov.au] or by contacting the RMA Secretariat at the address or telephone number below.

All submissions must be in writing and received by the Authority at the address below no later than 27 March 2015.

The Common Seal of the
Repatriation Medical Authority
was affixed at the direction of:

Handwritten signature of Professor Nicholas Saunders AO and the official red seal of the Repatriation Medical Authority with the text 'Common Seal'.

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO
CHAIRPERSON 17 / 10 /2014