## Statement of Principles

concerning

## **FRACTURE**

ICD CODES: 733.1, 800 - 829

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 subsection 196B(2)

- 1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **fracture and death from fracture** can be related to operational service rendered by veterans, peacekeeping service rendered by members of Peacekeeping forces and hazardous service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **fracture or death from fracture** with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) trauma at the site and at the time of clinical onset of the fracture; or
  - (b) repetitive physical stress immediately before the development of pain from stress fractures at the site of such stress; or
  - (c) Paget's disease at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or

- (d) osteoporosis or osteomalacia at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
- (e) a mycotic, suppurative or syphilitic infection of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
- (f) a malignant neoplasm affecting the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
- (g) a benign tumour of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
- (h) trauma at the site and at the time of clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (j) Paget's disease at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (k) osteoporosis or osteomalacia at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (m) a mycotic, suppurative or syphilitic infection of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (n) a malignant neoplasm affecting the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (o) a benign tumour of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
- (p) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the fracture.
- 2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(p)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
- 3. The factors set out in paragraphs 1(h) to 1(p) apply only where:
  - (a) the person's **fracture** was suffered prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
  - (b) the relationship suggested between the **fracture** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d), or 70(5A)(d) of the Act.
- 4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**"benign tumour of the bone"** means an abnormal neoplastic growth of the bone, not displaying malignant characteristics, attracting ICD Code 213 or 733.2;

"ICD code" means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the *International Classification of Diseases* 9th Revision, US Department of Health and Human Services, Pub. No 80-1260;

"malignant neoplasm" means an abnormal growth of cells displaying clonality of origin from a single cells, automous growth, lack of cell differentiative and the ability to metastasize, attracting an ICD Code in the range from 140 to 208.9;

"mycotic, suppurative or syphilitic infection" means an infection with mycobacterium, spirochaete, or pus forming bacterium, attracting ICD Code 730.0, 730.1 or 730.2;

"osteomalacia" means a disease in which there is a reduction in the mineralisation of the organic matrix of the bone, attracting ICD Code 268.2;

"osteoporosis" means a disease in which there is a reduction in the mass of bone per unit volume, attracting ICD Code 733.0;

**"Paget's disease"** means a disease in which there is simultaneous osseous hyperplasia and accelerated deossification, attracting ICD Code 731.0.

| Dated this                     | day of | 1994 |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|
|                                |        |      |
| The Common Seal of the         | )      |      |
| Repatriation Medical Authority | )      |      |
| was affixed to this instrument | )      |      |
| in the presence of:            | )      |      |

KEN DONALD CHAIRMAN