

REVOKED

## Statement of Principles

concerning

### **VARICOSE VEINS**

**ICD CODE: 454**

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **varicose veins and death from varicose veins** 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 **varicose veins or death from varicose veins** with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) having congestive cardiac failure with increased venous pressure before the clinical onset of varicose veins; or
  - (b) having thrombophlebitis of the lower limb or pelvic veins before the clinical onset of varicose veins; or
  - (c) having an abdominal tumour causing lower limb venous obstruction before the clinical onset of varicose veins; or
  - (d) being pregnant before the clinical onset of varicose veins; or
  - (e) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for varicose veins.

2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to (e)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(e)** applies only where:
  - (a) the person's **varicose veins** were 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 **varicose veins** 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:

**“abdominal tumour causing lower limb venous obstruction”** means a neoplasm, either benign or malignant, that has been shown to have caused venous obstruction to the lower limbs;

**“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;

**“thrombophlebitis”** is venous thrombosis and means the presence of thrombus within a deep vein and the accompanying inflammatory response in the vessel;

**“varicose veins”** means dilated tortuous superficial veins that result from defective structure and function of the valves of the saphenous veins, from intrinsic weakness of the vein wall, or rarely from arteriovenous fistulas, attracting ICD code 454.

Dated this

day of

1995

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN