

## REVOKED

### Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

## DIABETES MELLITUS

ICD CODE: 250

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(3)

The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.48 of 1996, (Statement of Principles concerning diabetes mellitus), by:

1. inserting after the definition of "acute pancreatitis" in paragraph 7, the following definition of "baseline weight":

**"baseline weight'** means the weight level which was being maintained prior to the effect of the particular factor specified;"

2. omitting the definition of "being obese" from paragraph 7, and replacing it with the following:

**"being obese'** means an increase in body weight by way of fat accumulation beyond an arbitrary limit, and due to a cause specified in the Repatriation Medical Authority's Statement about the causes of "being obese" signed by the Chairman of the Authority on 16 August 1996, attracting ICD code 278.0.

The measurement used to define "being obese" is the Body Mass Index (BMI).

The BMI =  $W/H^2$  and where:

W is the person's weight in kilograms and  
H is the person's height in metres.

“Being obese” is considered to be present when the BMI is 30 or greater. This definition excludes weight gain not resulting from fat deposition such as gross oedema, peritoneal or pleural effusion, or muscle hypertrophy. “Being obese” develops when energy intake is in excess of expenditure for a sustained period of time.

For a factor to be included as a cause of “being obese” it must have resulted in a significant weight gain, of the order of a 20% increase in baseline weight, and in association with a BMI of 30 or greater;”.

3. omitting the definition of “ICD code” from paragraph 7, and replacing it with the following:

“**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;”;

4. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.48 of 1996 and section 120B of the Act apply.

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