

## 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 as there are grounds for such a review it intends to carry out an investigation in respect of the following:

- a. **the definition of hypertension and the ICD coding;**
- b. **alcohol consumption** as a factor in hypertension; and
- c. **dioxin exposure and dioxin contaminated herbicide exposure** as a factor/s in hypertension.

This investigation will be carried out in the context of Statements of Principles concerning **hypertension** (Instrument Nos. 35 and 36 of 2003, as amended by instrument Nos. 3 and 4 of 2004).

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

- any person eligible to make a claim for pension under Part II or Part IV of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*;
- any 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
- any person having expertise in a field relevant to the investigation.

The Repatriation Medical Authority will hold its first meeting for the purposes of the investigation on **10 December 2007**.

Persons and organisations wishing to make a submission should obtain from the RMA Secretariat (at the address and phone number below) a copy of the *RMA Submission Guidelines*.

All submissions must be in writing and received by the Authority at the address below no later than **30 November 2007**.

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRPERSON        5/09/2007

**The Repatriation Medical Authority**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Floor, 259 Queen Street [GPO Box 1014]**  
**BRISBANE, QLD 4001**  
**Telephone:(07) 3815 9404**