



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, pursuant to subsection 196B(7A) of the VEA, it intends to carry out an investigation in respect of bacterial infection of a disc as an onset factor in intervertebral disc prolapse.

This investigation will be carried out in the context of Statement of Principles Instrument No. 44 of 2016 concerning intervertebral disc prolapse.

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 VEA;
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 6 October 2020.

Persons and organisations wishing to make a submission can use the RMA website http://www.rma.gov.au/investigations/ to electronically lodge the submission and supporting information. Alternatively, submissions can be sent by email to info@rma.gov.au or posted to the address below. The RMA Submission Guidelines are available online for guidance. The RMA Secretariat may be contacted at the address, telephone number or email address below for further assistance.

All submissions must be in writing and received by the Authority no later than 28 September 2020.

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

[Handwritten signature]

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO
CHAIRPERSON 13 / 08 / 2020