

REVOKED

Statement of Principles

concerning

INGUINAL HERNIA

ICD CODE 550

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **inguinal hernia and death from inguinal hernia** 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 **inguinal hernia or death from inguinal hernia** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) having an episode of raised intra-abdominal pressure within the seven days before the clinical onset of inguinal hernia; or
 - (b) having an episode of raised intra-abdominal pressure within the seven days before the clinical worsening of inguinal hernia; or
 - (c) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for inguinal hernia.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(c)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.

- 3. The factors set out in paragraph **1(b) and 1(c)** apply only where:
 - (a) the person’s inguinal hernia was contracted prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
 - (b) the relationship suggested between the inguinal hernia 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:

“inguinal hernia” means a protrusion of contents from the abdominal cavity through that part of the abdominal wall known as the inguinal canal, which may occur either directly or indirectly depending upon the anatomical route taken by the hernia, and on either side of the body;

“raised intra-abdominal pressure” means an intermittent or continuous elevation of the intra-abdominal pressure.

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**