Statement of Principles

concerning

HAEMORRHOIDS

ICD CODE: 455

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 subsection 196B(2)

- 1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **haemorrhoids** and **death from haemorrhoids** 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 **haemorrhoids or death from haemorrhoids** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) having increased venous pressure due to straining at stool before the clinical onset of haemorrhoids; or
 - (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for haemorrhoids.
- 2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(b)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
- 3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(b)** applies only where:
 - (a) the person's haemorrhoids were 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 haemorrhoids 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:

"haemorrhoids" means a varicose dilation of a vein of the superior or inferior haemorrhoidal plexus resulting from a persistent increase in venous pressure, attracting ICD Code 455;

"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;

"straining at stool" means infrequent or difficult evacuation of the faeces (constipation) or abnormal frequency and liquidity of faecal discharges (diarrhoea).

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