

REVOKED

Statement of Principles
concerning
NON-HODGKIN'S LYMPHOMA

ICD CODE: 200.0, 200.1, 200.8 and 202

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(3)

1. Being of the view that, on the sound medical-scientific evidence available to the Repatriation Medical Authority, it is more probable than not that **non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and death from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma** can be related to eligible war service rendered by veterans and defence service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **non-Hodgkin's lymphoma or death from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma** is connected with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) in the case of adult T-cell leukaemia/lymphoma only, being infected with HTLV-1 before the clinical onset of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; or
 - (b) being infected with HIV before the clinical onset of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; or
 - (c) having received a course on immunosuppressive drugs before the clinical onset of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; or

- (d) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- 2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(d)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
- 3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(d)** applies only where:
 - (a) the person's **non-Hodgkin's lymphoma** 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 **non-Hodgkin's lymphoma** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e) or 70(5)(d) of the Act.
- 4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

"a course of immunosuppressive drugs" means treatment with one of a group of drugs designed to suppress the immune system;

"being infected with HIV" means serological evidence of infection with human Immunodeficiency Virus, attracting an ICD code in the range 42 to 44;

"being infected with HTLV-1" means serological evidence of infection within the retro virus human T-cell lymphotropic virus Type 1, attracting an ICD code of 079.51.

"Hodgkin's disease" means a neoplastic disease of the human lymphoid tissues, characterised by the histological presence of Reed-Sternberg cells and symptoms such as fever, night sweats and weight loss, and attracting ICD code 201;

"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;

"non-Hodgkin's lymphoma" means a neoplastic disease of the human lymphoid tissues other than Hodgkin's disease, and attracting ICD codes of 200.0, 200.1, 200.8 and 202.

"Reed-Sternberg" means a cell with two or more nuclei with prominent nucleoli with perinucleolar halos.

