

# REVOKED

## Statement of Principles

concerning

## **GUNSHOT WOUNDS**

ICD CODES: 851 - 854, 860 - 869, 870 - 879, 880 - 887, 890 - 897,  
900 - 904, 950 - 959

### Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **gunshot wound and death from gunshot wound** 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 **gunshot wound or death from gunshot wound** with the circumstances of that service, are:
  - (a) being hit by a projectile, missile, exploding device or fragment thereof; or
  - (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the gunshot wound.
2. The factors set out in paragraph 1(a) to (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 gunshot wound was suffered prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and

- (b) the relationship suggested between the gunshot wound 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:

**“gunshot wound”** includes a penetration, division, rupture, destruction, abrasion, and bruising of bodily tissue, organs or bone, attracting an ICD code within the ranges 851 to 854, 860 to 869, 870 to 879, 880 to 887, 890 to 897, 900 to 904, or 950 to 959, but does not include an injury caused by percussion, concussion, shock, burns, noise trauma, the inhalation of a deleterious substance, diseases of a psychiatric nature or infections;

**“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.

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