Statement of Principles

concerning

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE PANCREAS

ICD CODE: 157

Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that malignant neoplasm of the pancreas and death from malignant neoplasm of the pancreas 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 malignant neoplasm of the pancreas or death from malignant neoplasm of the pancreas with the circumstances of that service, are:

(a) smoking ten pack-years, all or part of which were smoked within the 20 years before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or

(b) having a gastrectomy before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or

(c) suffering from diabetes mellitus before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or
(d) suffering from chronic pancreatitis before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or

(e) spraying or decanting DDT:
   (i) for at least 60 days; and
   (ii) as a primary occupation,

before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or

(f) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the pancreas.

2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs 1(a) to 1(f) must be related to any service rendered by a person.

3. The factor set out in paragraph 1(f) applies only where:
   (a) the person’s malignant neoplasm of the pancreas 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 malignant neoplasm of the pancreas 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:

   “chronic pancreatitis” means an inflammation of the pancreas lasting one year, attracting ICD Code 577.1;

   “DDT” means a complex synthetic mixture in which pp'-diclorodiphenyltrichloroethane predominates;

   “diabetes mellitus” means a disorder of carbohydrate metabolism due to a relative lack of insulin, attracting ICD Code 250;

   “gastrectomy” means the partial or total surgical removal of the stomach;

   “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;

   “malignant neoplasm of the pancreas” means a malignant neoplasm of the cells of the pancreas, attracting ICD Code 157;
“pack-year” means 7 300 cigarettes.

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