

REVOKED

Statement of Principles

concerning

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE COLON

ICD CODE: 153

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 colon and death from malignant neoplasm of the colon** 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 colon or death from malignant neoplasm of the colon** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) smoking cigarettes or other tobacco products for at least 10 pack-years, all or part of which were smoked 20 years or more before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or
 - (b) being occupationally exposed to asbestos more than 10 years before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or
 - (c) suffering from ulcerative colitis before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or
 - (d) suffering from Crohn's disease before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or

- (e) suffering from familial polyposis coli before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or
 - (f) being physically inactive for at least 10 years more than 5 years before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the colon; or
 - (g) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the colon.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(g)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(g)** applies only where:
- (a) the person's **malignant neoplasm of the colon** 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 colon** 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:

“being physically inactive” means being unable to walk or stand and being mobile only in a wheel chair, or other similar device or vehicle;

“Crohn's disease” means an inflammatory disease of the digestive system, involving the bowel wall, characterised by the presence of epithelioid cell granuloma, often with giant cells, attracting ICD code 555;

“familial polyposis coli” means a genetic disorder in which there is the formation of numerous polyps in the gastro-intestinal tract;

“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 colon” means a malignant neoplasm of the cells of the colon, attracting ICD Code 153;

“occupationally exposed to asbestos” means applying, cutting, spraying, drilling or removing asbestos fibres as the significant part of the person's work;

“pack-year” means 7,300 cigarettes, or 1,460 cigars, or 7,300g of pipe tobacco;

