

REVOKED

Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

CERVICAL SPONDYLOSIS

ICD CODES: 721.0, 721.1, 722.4, 722.71, 722.91

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(3)

The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.102 of 1995 (Statement of Principles concerning cervical spondylosis) by:

1. inserting immediately after paragraph (e) of clause 1, the following:
 - “(ea) suffering a trauma to the cervical spine before the clinical onset of cervical spondylosis; or”;
2. omitting paragraph (f) of clause 1 and inserting in its place in clause 1 the following:
 - “(f) suffering a trauma to the cervical spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability before the clinical worsening of cervical spondylosis; or”;
3. inserting immediately after paragraph (f) of clause 1, the following:
 - “(g) suffering a trauma to the cervical spine before the clinical worsening of cervical spondylosis.”;
4. omitting paragraph 2 and inserting in its place the following:

- “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.”;
5. omitting paragraph 3 and inserting in its place the following:
- “3. The factors set out in paragraphs **1(f) to 1(g)** apply only where:
- (a) the person’s **cervical spondylosis** was contracted before a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
 - (b) the relationship suggested between the **cervical spondylosis** 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.”;
6. omitting the definition of “cervical spondylosis” in paragraph 4 and inserting in its place in paragraph 4, the following definition:
- “cervical spondylosis'** means a clinical syndrome characterised by local pain and stiffness, or pain and paraesthesia radiating into the arms, associated with degenerative changes in the cervical vertebrae, attracting ICD code 721.0, 721.1, 722.4, 722.71 or 722.91;”;
7. inserting after the definition of “malalignment” in paragraph 4 the following definitions:
- “trauma to the cervical spine'** means injury to the cervical spine caused by the force of an extraneous physical or mechanical agent that causes pain, swelling or tenderness within the 24 hours after the force has been applied;
- 'trauma to the cervical spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability'** means abnormal mobility and instability of the cervical spine due to ligamentous injury caused by the force of an extraneous physical or mechanical agent, and is characterised by the regular recurrence of episodes of pain and/or swelling of the cervical spine.”.

The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.102 of 1995 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this **Twenty-ninth** day of
August 1995

The Common Seal of the)
Repatriation Medical Authority)
was affixed to this instrument)
in the presence of)

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN