

Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

NON MELANOTIC MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE SKIN

ICD CODE: 173

**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.309 of 1995 (Statement of Principles concerning non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin) by:

1. inserting immediately after paragraph (a) of clause 1, the following:
 - “(aa) ingesting arsenic or arsenic containing compounds for at least ten years, where ingestion commenced at least 20 years before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
 - (ab) regularly consuming drinking water with arsenic content higher than 0.1 parts per million for at least ten years, where consumption commenced at least 20 years before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
 - (ac) receiving a course of therapeutic radiation to the affected site, at least 15 years before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
 - (ad) receiving 50 or more PUVA treatments to the affected site, when the first treatment was administered at least 5 years before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or

- (ae) being treated with immunosuppressive drugs for organ transplantation before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (af) suffering from chronic cutaneous scarring of the affected site immediately before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (ag) suffering from chronic cutaneous ulceration of the affected site immediately before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (ah) suffering from chronic radiodermatitis of the affected site immediately before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (aj) suffering from a chronically infected cutaneous sinus tract at the affected site immediately before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (ak) exposure of the affected site to mustard gas before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin; or
- (am) being occupationally involved in the manufacturing or spraying of arsenic-containing pesticides, at least 10 years before the clinical onset of non melanotic malignant neoplasm of the skin.”;

2. inserting after “Schedule 1” in paragraph 4 the following definitions:

“'chronically infected cutaneous sinus tract' means the persistence of an abnormal, suppurating communication between an internal organ and the skin such as results from chronic osteomyelitis of bone;

'chronic cutaneous scarring' means the presence of a mark remaining after the healing of a wound or other morbid process affecting the skin, including scars due to thermal or burn injury, irradiation injury or chemical injury, attracting ICD code 701.4 or 709.2;

'chronic cutaneous ulceration' means the persistence of a localised defect or excavation of the skin produced by sloughing of inflammatory necrotic tissue, attracting ICD code 454.0, 454.2, or 707;

'course of therapeutic radiation' means treatment by irradiation with alpha, beta, gamma or x-rays;

'immunosuppressive drugs' means drugs or agents capable of suppressing immune responses;

'ingesting arsenic or arsenic containing compounds' means exposure to arsenic through regular medicinal treatment with inorganic trivalent arsenic compounds such as Fowler's solution, Donovan's solution;

'mustard gas' means dichlorodiethylsulphide, and is also known as sulphur mustard and yellow cross liquid;

'PUVA treatments' means the therapeutic administration of oral psoralen plus long-wave ultraviolet radiation in the A range for the treatment of psoriasis;

'radiodermatitis' means a cutaneous inflammatory reaction resulting from exposure to biologically effective levels of ionising radiation, attracting ICD code 692.82."

The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.309 of 1995 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this *Twenty-eighth* day of *September* 1995

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN