

REVOKED

Revocation and Determination

of

Statement of Principles concerning

AORTIC STENOSIS

ICD CODE: 093.22, 424.1

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act):
 - (a) revokes Instrument No.92 of 1995; and
 - (b) determines the following Statement of Principles.

Kind of injury, disease or death

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **aortic stenosis** and **death from aortic stenosis**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, **“aortic stenosis”** means obstruction of flow across the aortic valve during left ventricular systolic ejection, attracting ICD code 093.22 or 424.1. This definition excludes aortic stenosis due to rheumatic heart disease and aortic valve sclerosis or idiopathic aortic valve calcification that does not lead to obstruction of blood flow across the aortic valve.

Note:- for aortic stenosis due to rheumatic fever, attracting ICD code 395.0 or 395.2, see Statements of Principles concerning rheumatic heart disease.

Basis for determining the factors

3. On the sound medical-scientific evidence available, the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that it is more probable than not that **aortic stenosis** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces.

Factors that must be related to service

4. Subject to clause 6, the factors set out in at least one of the paragraphs in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

Factors

5. The factors that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **aortic stenosis** or **death from aortic stenosis** is connected with the circumstances of a person's relevant service are:
 - (a) suffering from infective endocarditis before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (b) suffering from systemic lupus erythematosus before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (c) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation to the mediastinum before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (d) suffering from syphilis before the clinical onset of aortic stenosis; or
 - (e) suffering from infective endocarditis before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (f) suffering from systemic lupus erythematosus before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (g) undergoing a course of therapeutic radiation to the mediastinum before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (h) suffering from syphilis before the clinical worsening of aortic stenosis; or
 - (j) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for aortic stenosis.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

6. Paragraphs **5(e) to 5(j)** apply only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, aortic stenosis where the person's aortic stenosis was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service; paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e) or 70(5)(d) of the Act refers.

Other definitions

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

“a course of therapeutic radiation” means one or more fractions (treatment portions) of therapeutic radiation given with the aim of achieving palliation or cure with ionising radiation;

“ICD code” means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the Australian Version of The International Classification of Diseases, 9th revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), effective date of 1 July 1995, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 22235 5;

“infective endocarditis” means an inflammation of the endocardium (excluding rheumatic endocarditis) caused by a range of bacterial, viral, fungal or other agents attracting ICD code 036.42, 074.22, 098.84, 112.81, 115.04, 115.14, 115.94, 421 or 424.9;

“relevant service” means:

- (a) eligible war service (other than operational service); or
- (b) defence service (other than hazardous service);

“syphilis” means a sub-acute or chronic infectious disease caused by the spirochaete *Treponema pallidum*, characterised by episodes of active disease interrupted by periods of latency, attracting an ICD code in the range 090 to 097;

“systemic lupus erythematosus” is a connective tissue disease in which cells are damaged by pathogenic autoantibodies and immune complexes, attracting ICD code 710.0;

“therapeutic radiation” means medical treatment by irradiation to the person with gamma rays, x-rays, alpha particles or beta particles.

Application

8. This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120B of the Act applies.

Dated this *Eighteenth* day of *June* 1996

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN