

Amendment of Statement of Principles  
concerning  
**SUICIDE OR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE**

**ICD CODE: 989.9**

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986  
subsection 196B(2)

The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.71 of 1996, (Statement of Principles concerning suicide or attempted suicide), by:

1. omitting the definition of "ICD code" from paragraph 7, and replacing it with the following:

**"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 1996, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 24447 2;";

2. omitting the definition of "severe psychosocial stressor" from paragraph 7, and replacing it with the following:

**"severe psychosocial stressor'** means an identifiable occurrence that evokes feelings of substantial distress in an individual, for example, being shot at, death or serious injury in a close friend or relative, assault (including sexual assault), severe illness or injury, experiencing a loss

such as divorce or separation, loss of employment, major financial problems or legal problems;”;

3. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.71 of 1996 and section 120A of the Act apply.

Dated this *Ninth* day of *December*  
1996

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN