

## Revocation and Determination

of

## Statement of Principles concerning

# MENIERE'S DISEASE

ICD CODE: 386.0

### *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(2)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act):
  - (a) revokes Instrument No.257 of 1995; and
  - (b) determines the following Statement of Principles.

#### **Kind of injury, disease or death**

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **Meniere's disease and death from Meniere's disease**.  
  
(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, "**Meniere's disease**" means a clinical condition characterised by fluctuating hearing loss, tinnitus, a sense of fullness in the involved ear associated with recurring attacks of rotational vertigo of sudden onset, often associated with nausea and vomiting, attracting ICD code 386.0.

Note: This definition includes the conditions known as endolymphatic hydrops and Meniere's syndrome. Labyrinthitis, vertigo of central origin and other unspecified vertiginous syndromes are excluded from this definition.

#### **Basis for determining the factors**

3. The Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **Meniere's disease and death from Meniere's disease** can be related to relevant service

rendered by veterans, members of Peacekeeping Forces, or members of the Forces.

#### **Factors that must be related to service**

4. Subject to clause 6, the factor set out in the paragraph in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

#### **Factors**

5. The factor that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **Meniere's disease** or **death from Meniere's disease** with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:
  - (a) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for Meniere's disease.

#### **Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation**

6. Paragraph 5(a) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, Meniere's disease where the person's Meniere's disease was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service; paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d) or 70(5A)(d) of the Act refers.

#### **Other definitions**

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**“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;

**“relevant service”** means:

- (a) operational service; or
- (b) peacekeeping service; or
- (c) hazardous service.

**Application**

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

Dated this **Twentieth** day of **February**  
1997

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN