Amendment Statement of Principles
concerning

**CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE**

No. 129 of 2015

for the purposes of the

*Veterans’ Entitlements Act 1986*

and

*Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*

1. This Instrument may be cited as Amendment Statement of Principles concerning chronic obstructive pulmonary disease No. 129 of 2015.


   (A) Inserting a new factor "(ga)" following factor "(g)" in clause 6 as follows:

   "(ga) inhaling dust at a concentration of greater than five milligrams per cubic metre:

   (i) for a cumulative period of at least 20,000 hours, before the clinical onset of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; and

   (ii) where that exposure has ceased, the clinical onset of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease has occurred within ten years of cessation; or"

   (B) Inserting a new factor "(oa)" following factor "(o)" in clause 6 as follows:

   "(oa) inhaling dust at a concentration of greater than five milligrams per cubic metre:"

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(i) for a cumulative period of at least 20 000 hours, before
the clinical worsening of chronic obstructive pulmonary
disease; and

(ii) where that exposure has ceased, the clinical worsening of
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease has occurred
within ten years of cessation; or”;

(C) Inserting new factor "(pa)" following factor "(p)" in clause 6 as follows:
"(pa) having at least four episodes of acute viral or bacterial lower
respiratory tract infection requiring medical treatment within
the one year before the clinical worsening of chronic
obstructive pulmonary disease; or”;

(D) Replacing the definition of "a respiratory tract irritant from the
specified list" in clause 9 as follows:

"a respiratory tract irritant from the specified list" means:
(a) ammonia;
(b) chlorine;
(c) dust;
(d) Lewisite;
(e) oxides of nitrogen;
(f) oxides of sulphur;
(g) phosgene;
(h) phthalic anhydride;
(i) smoke from fires;
(j) sulphur mustard (mustard gas); or
(k) another respirable agent which causes comparable tissue
damage;

and

(E) Inserting a definition of "dust" in clause 9 as follows:
"dust" means airborne particulate matter consisting of poorly soluble
solid particles of organic or inorganic matter, of diameter between 0.5
μm and 75 μm, which settle slowly under the influence of gravity, and
which are formed by natural forces or mechanical processes such as
crushing, grinding, milling, drilling, demolition, shovelling or sweeping
of mineral or biological matter such as coal, grain, metal, rock or
wood;

3. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which
Instrument No. 38 of 2014, section 120B of the Veterans’ Entitlements Act
1986 and section 339 of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act
2004 apply.

4. The amendments made by this instrument take effect from
16 November 2015.
Dated this sixteen day of October 2015

The Common Seal of the Repatriation Medical Authority was affixed at the direction of:

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO CHAIRPERSON