



**Australian Government**  
**Repatriation Medical Authority**

**Amendment Statement of Principles**  
**concerning**  
**TEMPOROMANDIBULAR DISORDER**  
**(Balance of Probabilities)**  
**(No. 43 of 2020)**

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The Repatriation Medical Authority determines the following Amendment Statement of Principles under subsections 196B(3) and (8) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.

Dated 24 April 2020

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Saunders'.

Professor Nicholas Saunders AO  
Chairperson

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## 1 Name

This is the Amendment Statement of Principles concerning *temporomandibular disorder (Balance of Probabilities)* (No. 43 of 2020).

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences on 25 May 2020.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsections 196B(3) and (8) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.

## 4 Amendment

The Statement of Principles concerning *temporomandibular disorder (Balance of Probabilities)* (No. 48 of 2018) (Federal Register of Legislation No. F2018L00541) is amended in the following manner:

Section	Amendment
<i>Schedule 1 – Dictionary</i>	<p>Replace the existing definition of "acute trauma" with the following:</p> <p><b>acute trauma</b> means a discrete event involving the application of significant physical force to or through the affected structures, that causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) damage to the joint, masticatory muscles and associated structures of the masticatory system; and</li><li>(b) the development, within 24 hours of the event occurring, of symptoms and signs of pain, tenderness or altered range of movement of the joint and associated structures. In the case of sustained unconsciousness or the masking of pain by analgesic medication, these symptoms and signs must appear on return to consciousness or the withdrawal of the analgesic medication; or</li><li>(c) distortion of the temporomandibular joint; or</li><li>(d) fracture of the temporal bone or mandible.</li></ul> <p>Note 1: Acute trauma includes craniotomy, osteotomy and reconstructive surgery involving the temporal bone or mandible, but excludes regular dental and orthodontic treatment.</p> <p>Note 2: <b>masticatory muscles and associated structures of the masticatory system</b> is also defined in the Schedule 1 – Dictionary.</p>