

Amendment Statement of Principles

concerning

OSTEOARTHRITIS
(Reasonable Hypothesis)

(No. 76 of 2022)

The Repatriation Medical Authority determines the following Amendment Statement of Principles under subsections 196B(2) and (8) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.

Dated 24 June 2022

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| The Common Seal of theRepatriation Medical Authoritywas affixed to this instrumentat the direction of: |
| Professor Terence Campbell AMChairperson |

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1. Name

This is the Amendment Statement of Principles concerning *osteoarthritis* *(Reasonable Hypothesis)* (No. 76 of 2022).

1. Commencement

 This instrument commences on 25 July 2022.

1. Authority

This instrument is made under subsections 196B(2) and (8) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.

1. Amendment

The Statement of Principles concerning *osteoarthritis* *(Reasonable Hypothesis)* (No. 61 of 2017) (Federal Register of Legislation No. F2017L01443) is amended in the following manner:

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| **Section**  | **Amendment** |
| *9(13)* | *Replace the existing factor in subsection 9(13) with the following*:for osteoarthritis of a joint of the upper limb only:Note: ***joint of the upper limb*** is defined in the Schedule 1 - Dictionary.* + 1. performing:

(i) forceful or repetitive activities involving the affected joint; or (ii) tasks involving repeated or sustained pinch grip or hand/power grip;for an average of at least 100 hours per month, for a cumulative period of at least ten years within a continuous period of 15 years, before the clinical onset of osteoarthritis in that joint; orNote: ***hand/power grip, pinch grip*** and ***repetitive activities***  are defined in the Schedule 1 – Dictionary.1. using a hand-held, vibrating percussive tool or object on more days than not, for a cumulative period of at least ten years, before the clinical onset of osteoarthritis in that joint;
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| *9(35)* | *Replace the existing factor in subsection 9(35) with the following*:for osteoarthritis of a joint of the upper limb only:Note: ***joint of the upper limb*** is defined in the Schedule 1 - Dictionary.* + 1. performing:

(i) forceful or repetitive activities involving the affected joint; or (ii) tasks involving repeated or sustained pinch grip or hand/power grip;for an average of at least 100 hours per month, for a cumulative period of at least ten years within a continuous period of 15 years, before the clinical worsening of osteoarthritis in that joint; orNote: ***hand/power grip, pinch grip*** and ***repetitive activities*** are defined in the Schedule 1 – Dictionary.* + 1. using a hand-held, vibrating percussive tool or object on more days than not, for a cumulative period of at least ten years, before the clinical worsening of osteoarthritis in that joint;
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| *Schedule 1 – Dictionary* | *Insert the following definition of "joint of the upper limb" in alphabetical order*:***joint of the upper limb***means the glenohumeral joint, the acromioclavicular joint, the elbow joint or any joint of the wrist or hand. |