



SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

INSTRUMENT NOS. 59 to 66 OF 2017

Statements of Principles (SOPs) Nos. 59 to 66 of 2017 were signed by the Chairperson of the Repatriation Medical Authority (the Authority) on 3 November 2017.

The Instruments have been lodged and registered with the Federal Register of Legislation, pursuant to section 15G of the *Legislation Act 2003* (Legislation Act). The day of commencement as specified in each of the Instruments is 4 December 2017. In accordance with the Legislation Act, the Office of Parliamentary Counsel must generally deliver a legislative instrument for laying before each House of the Parliament within six sitting days of that House after the instrument is registered with the instrument's registered explanatory statement. The Instruments and the associated Explanatory Statements registered with the Federal Register of Legislation are available from: <http://www.legislation.gov.au>.

Copies of each Instrument, the associated Explanatory Statement and a list of references relating to each Instrument, are available in accordance with the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA), on written request from the RMA Secretariat.

The 'User Guide to the RMA Statements of Principles' explains the meaning and purpose of each section of the new SOP template which commenced in 2015. This document is available on the Authority's website <http://www.rma.gov.au>.

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9 November 2017

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Instr. No.	Title	Date of Commencement	ICD-10-AM Codes
REVOCATIONS			
59 & 60/2017	substance use disorder	04/12/2017	Nil
61 & 62/2017	osteoarthritis	04/12/2017	M15, M16, M17, M18 or M19
63 & 64/2017	immune thrombocytopaenia	04/12/2017	Nil
DETERMINATIONS			
65 & 66/2017	ulnar neuropathy at the elbow	04/12/2017	Nil

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59 & 60/2017	substance use disorder	<p>These Instruments result from an investigation notified by the Authority in the Government Notices Gazette of 3 May 2016 concerning <i>substance use disorder</i> in accordance with section 196G of the VEA. The investigation involved an examination of the sound medical-scientific evidence now available to the Authority, including the sound medical-scientific evidence it has previously considered.</p> <p>The contents of these Instruments are in similar terms as the revoked Instruments. Comparing these Instruments and the revoked Instruments, the differences include:</p> <p>For RH SoP (Instrument No. 59/2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopting the latest revised Instrument format, which commenced in 2015; • specifying a day of commencement for the Instrument in section 2; • revising the definition of 'substance use disorder' in subsection 7(2); • revising the factors in subsections 9(1) & 9(10) concerning 'clinically significant disorder of mental health'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(2) & 9(11) concerning 'category 1A stressor', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(3) & 9(12) concerning 'category 1B stressor', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(4) & 9(13) concerning 'death of a significant other', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(6) & 9(14) concerning 'severe childhood abuse'; • new factors in subsections 9(8) & 9(16) concerning 'category 2 stressor'; • new factors in subsections 9(9) & 9(17) concerning 'persistent pain'; • new definitions of 'category 2 stressor', 'clinically significant disorder of mental health as specified', 'MRCA', 'persistent pain' and 'VEA' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; • revising the definitions of 'category 1A stressor', 'category 1B stressor', 'eyewitness' and 'relevant service' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; and • deleting the definitions of 'a clinically significant psychiatric condition' and 'a specified disorder of mental health'. <p>For BoP SoP (Instrument No. 60/2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopting the latest revised Instrument format, which commenced in 2015; • specifying a day of commencement for the Instrument in section 2; • revising the definition of 'substance use disorder' in subsection 7(2); • revising the factors in subsections 9(1) & 9(8) concerning 'clinically significant disorder of mental health'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(2) & 9(9) concerning 'category 1A stressor', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(3) & 9(10) concerning 'category 1B stressor', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(4) & 9(11) concerning 'death of a significant other', by inclusion of a note; • revising the factors in subsections 9(6) & 9(12) concerning 'severe childhood abuse'; • new factors in subsections 9(7) & 9(13) concerning 'category 2 stressor'; • new definitions of 'category 2 stressor', 'clinically significant disorder of mental health as specified', 'MRCA' and 'VEA' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; • revising the definitions of 'category 1A stressor', 'category 1B stressor', 'eyewitness' and 'relevant service' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; and • deleting the definitions of 'a clinically significant psychiatric condition' and 'a specified disorder of mental health'. <p>The determining of these Instruments finalises the investigation in relation to <i>substance use disorder</i> as advertised in the Government Notices Gazette of 3 May 2016.</p>
61 & 62/2017	osteoarthritis	<p>These Instruments result from an investigation notified by the Authority in the Government Notices Gazette of 19 October 2016 concerning <i>osteoarthritis</i> in accordance with section 196G of the VEA. The investigation involved an examination of the sound medical-scientific evidence now available to the Authority, including the sound medical-scientific evidence it has previously considered.</p> <p>The contents of these Instruments are in similar terms as the revoked Instruments. Comparing these Instruments and the revoked Instruments, the differences include:</p>

For RH SoP (Instrument No. 61/2017)

- adopting the latest revised Instrument format, which commenced in 2015;
- specifying a day of commencement for the Instrument in section 2;
- revising the definition of 'osteoarthritis' in subsection 7(2);
- revising the reference to 'ICD-10-AM code' in subsection 7(4);
- revising the factors in subsections 9(2) & 9(24) concerning 'inflammatory joint disease';
- revising the factors in subsections 9(6) & 9(28) concerning 'a depositional joint disease';
- new factors in subsections 9(8) & 9(30) concerning 'an acute articular cartilage tear of the affected joint';
- new factors in subsections 9(9) & 9(31) concerning 'an acute meniscal tear of the affected knee';
- revising the factors in subsections 9(12) & 9(34) concerning 'necrosis of the subchondral bone';
- revising the factors in subsections 9(13)(a) & 9(35)(a) concerning 'repetitive activities or tasks involving repeated or sustained pinch grip or hand/power grip', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the upper limb only;
- revising the factors in subsections 9(13)(b) & 9(35)(b) concerning 'a hand-held, vibrating percussive tool or object', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the upper limb only;
- revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(b) & 9(36)(b) concerning 'lifting loads', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only;
- revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(c) & 9(36)(c) concerning 'carrying loads', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only;
- revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(d) & 9(36)(d) concerning 'ascending or descending at least 150 stairs or rungs of a ladder', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only;
- new factors in subsections 9(15)(b) & 9(37)(b) concerning 'having a waist circumference exceeding 102 centimetres', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb or hand joint only, for males only;
- new factors in subsections 9(15)(c) & 9(37)(c) concerning 'having a waist circumference exceeding 88 centimetres', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb or hand joint only, for females only;
- revising the factors in subsections 9(16) & 9(38) concerning 'kneeling or squatting', for osteoarthritis of a hip or knee joint only;
- new factors in subsections 9(22) & 9(44) concerning 'joint instability or dislocation';
- new factors in subsections 9(23) & 9(45) concerning 'femoroacetabular impingement syndrome', for osteoarthritis of a hip joint only;
- new factor in subsection 9(36)(e) concerning 'having osteoporosis', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only, for clinical worsening only;
- deleting the factors concerning 'waist to hip circumference ratio', for males and females, as they are now covered by the factors in subsections 9(15)(b), 9(37)(b), 9(15)(c) & 9(37)(c) concerning 'having a waist circumference';
- new definitions of 'BMI', 'depositional joint disease as specified', 'hand/power grip', 'inflammatory joint disease as specified', 'MRCA', 'pinch grip' and 'VEA' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary;
- revising the definitions of 'being overweight', 'disordered joint mechanics' and 'relevant service' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; and
- deleting the definitions of 'a depositional joint disease', 'forceful activities' and 'inflammatory joint disease'.

For BoP SoP (Instrument No. 62/2017)

- adopting the latest revised Instrument format, which commenced in 2015;
- specifying a day of commencement for the Instrument in section 2;
- revising the definition of 'osteoarthritis' in subsection 7(2);
- revising the reference to 'ICD-10-AM code' in subsection 7(4);
- revising the factors in subsections 9(1) & 9(24) concerning 'inflammatory joint disease';
- revising the factors in subsections 9(5) & 9(28) concerning 'a depositional joint disease';
- new factors in subsections 9(7) & 9(30) concerning 'an acute articular cartilage tear of the affected joint';
- new factors in subsections 9(8) & 9(31) concerning 'an acute meniscal tear of the affected knee';
- revising the factors in subsections 9(11) & 9(34) concerning 'necrosis of the subchondral bone';

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revising the factors in subsections 9(12) & 9(35) concerning 'repetitive activities or tasks involving repeated or sustained pinch grip or hand/power grip', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the upper limb only; • revising the factors in subsections 9(13) & 9(36) concerning 'a hand-held, vibrating percussive tool or object', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the hand, wrist or elbow joint only; • revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(b) & 9(37)(b) concerning 'lifting loads', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only; • revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(c) & 9(37)(c) concerning 'carrying loads', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only; • revising the factors in subsections 9(14)(d) & 9(37)(d) concerning 'ascending or descending at least 150 stairs or rungs of a ladder', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb only; • new factors in subsections 9(15)(b) & 9(38)(b) concerning 'having a waist circumference exceeding 102 centimetres', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb or hand joint only, for males only; • new factors in subsections 9(15)(c) & 9(38)(c) concerning 'having a waist circumference exceeding 88 centimetres', for osteoarthritis of a joint of the lower limb or hand joint only, for females only; • revising the factors in subsections 9(16) & 9(39) concerning 'kneeling or squatting', for osteoarthritis of a hip or knee joint only; • new factors in subsections 9(22) & 9(45) concerning 'joint instability or dislocation'; • new factors in subsections 9(23) & 9(46) concerning 'femoroacetabular impingement syndrome', for osteoarthritis of a hip joint only; • deleting the factors concerning 'waist to hip circumference ratio', for males and females, as they are now covered by the factors in subsections 9(15)(b), 9(38)(b), 9(15)(c) & 9(38)(c) concerning 'having a waist circumference'; • new definitions of 'BMI', 'depositional joint disease as specified', 'hand/power grip', 'inflammatory joint disease as specified', 'MRCA', 'pinch grip' and 'VEA' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; • revising the definitions of 'being overweight', 'disordered joint mechanics' and 'relevant service' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; and • deleting the definitions of 'a depositional joint disease', 'forceful activities' and 'inflammatory joint disease'. <p>The determining of these Instruments finalises the investigation in relation to <i>osteoarthritis</i> as advertised in the Government Notices Gazette of 19 October 2016.</p>
63 & 64/2017	immune thrombocytopaenia	<p>These Instruments result from an investigation notified by the Authority in the Government Notices Gazette of 3 May 2016 concerning <i>immune thrombocytopaenic purpura</i> in accordance with section 196G of the VEA. The investigation involved an examination of the sound medical-scientific evidence now available to the Authority, including the sound medical-scientific evidence it has previously considered.</p> <p>The contents of these Instruments are in similar terms as the revoked Instruments. Comparing these Instruments and the revoked Instruments, the differences include:</p> <p><i>For RH& BoP SoPs (Instrument Nos. 63 & 64/2017)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopting the latest revised Instrument format, which commenced in 2015; • specifying a day of commencement for the Instrument in section 2; • changing the title of the Instrument to 'immune thrombocytopaenia'; • new definition of 'immune thrombocytopaenia' in subsection 7(2); • revising the factors in subsections 9(1) & 9(14) concerning 'a viral infection'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(2) & 9(15) concerning 'a bacterial or fungal infection'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(3) & 9(16) concerning 'a drug or a drug from a class of drugs'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(4) & 9(17) concerning 'receiving a vaccine'; • new factors in subsections 9(5) & 9(18) concerning 'being treated with a drug or receiving a dose of vaccine'; • new factors in subsections 9(6) & 9(19) concerning 'being pregnant'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(7) & 9(20) concerning 'having a lymphoproliferative disorder'; • revising the factors in subsections 9(8) & 9(21) concerning 'an autoimmune or inflammatory disorder';

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new factors in subsections 9(9) & 9(22) concerning 'consuming a food or beverage from the specified list of food and beverages'; • new factors in subsections 9(10) & 9(23) concerning 'consuming a food or beverage'; • new factors in subsections 9(11) & 9(24) concerning 'solid organ or stem cell transplant'; • new factors in subsections 9(12) & 9(25) concerning 'solid organ cancer'; • new factor in subsection 9(13) concerning 'being treated with alemtuzumab', for clinical onset only; • deleting the factors concerning 'graft-versus-host disease complicating allogeneic stem cell transplantation' as they are subsumed by the factors in subsections 9(11) & 9(24) concerning 'solid organ or stem cell transplant'; • new definitions of 'MRCA', 'specified list of autoimmune and inflammatory disorders', 'specified list of bacterial and fungal infections', 'specified list of drugs', 'specified list of food and beverages', 'specified list of lymphoproliferative disorders', 'specified list of vaccines', 'specified list of viral infections' and 'VEA' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; • revising the definition of 'relevant service' in Schedule 1 - Dictionary; and • deleting the definitions of 'a drug or a drug from a class of drugs, from the specified list', 'a haematological malignancy or lymphoproliferative disorder', 'a specified bacterial infection', 'a specified viral infection', 'an autoimmune or inflammatory disease from the specified list' and 'graft-versus-host disease'. <p>The determining of these Instruments finalises the investigation in relation to <i>immune thrombocytopaenic purpura</i> as advertised in the Government Notices Gazette of 3 May 2016.</p>
65 & 66/2017	ulnar neuropathy at the elbow	<p>New Condition</p> <p>The determining of these new Instruments finalises the investigation in relation to <i>ulnar nerve entrapment at the elbow</i> as advertised in the Government Notices Gazette of 14 February 2017.</p>