



Australian Government
Repatriation Medical Authority

DECLARATION UNDER SUBSECTION 196B(9)
OF THE VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS ACT 1986

The Repatriation Medical Authority (the Authority), under subsection 196B(9) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), makes the following declaration in respect of an investigation to review the contents of the Statements of Principles in force under the Act concerning malignant neoplasm of the small intestine. The investigation related to "exposure to sulphur mustard or nitrogen mustard" and the Notice of Investigation was published in the Government Notices Gazette of 1 September 2010.

The Authority declares that it does not propose to amend the Statements of Principles, Instrument No. 40 of 2004, as amended by Instrument No. 19 of 2010, and Instrument No. 41 of 2004, concerning **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine** for the reason that there is no sound medical-scientific evidence available to justify an amendment to the Statements of Principles already determined in respect of **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine**.

No epidemiological studies concerning the possible association between exposure to sulphur mustard or nitrogen mustard and malignant neoplasm of the small intestine could be identified. For this reason, the Authority is of the view that the available sound medical-scientific evidence does not indicate that **malignant neoplasm of the small intestine** can be related to service involving exposure to sulphur mustard or nitrogen mustard.

The Common Seal of the
Repatriation Medical Authority
was affixed in the presence of)
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KEN DONALD
CHAIRPERSON 09/05/2011