

Statement of Principles

concerning

FRACTURE

ICD CODES: 733.1, 800 - 829

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **fracture and death from fracture** can be related to operational service rendered by veterans, peacekeeping service rendered by members of Peacekeeping forces and hazardous service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **fracture or death from fracture** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) trauma at the site and at the time of clinical onset of the fracture;
or
 - (b) repetitive physical stress immediately before the development of pain from stress fractures at the site of such stress; or
 - (c) Paget's disease at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or

- (d) osteoporosis or osteomalacia at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
 - (e) a mycotic, suppurative or syphilitic infection of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
 - (f) a malignant neoplasm affecting the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
 - (g) a benign tumour of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical onset of the fracture; or
 - (h) trauma at the site and at the time of clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (j) Paget's disease at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (k) osteoporosis or osteomalacia at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (m) a mycotic, suppurative or syphilitic infection of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (n) a malignant neoplasm affecting the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (o) a benign tumour of the bone at the site and at the time of the clinical worsening of the fracture; or
 - (p) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the fracture.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(p)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
 3. The factors set out in paragraphs **1(h) to 1(p)** apply only where:
 - (a) the person's **fracture** was suffered prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
 - (b) the relationship suggested between the **fracture** and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d), or 70(5A)(d) of the Act.
 4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

