

Statement of Principles

concerning

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE LARYNX

ICD CODE: 161

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **malignant neoplasm of the larynx and death from malignant neoplasm of the larynx** 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 **malignant neoplasm of the larynx or death from malignant neoplasm of the larynx** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) smoking three pack years of tobacco products before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (b) being exposed to an atmosphere with a visible tobacco smoke haze in an enclosed space for at least 20 hours per week for at least seven years, at a time or times prior to the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (c) being exposed to mustard gas, resulting in blisters, corneal ulcers, haemoptysis, or the need for hospitalisation, before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or

- (d) being exposed to respirable asbestos fibres in an enclosed area at a time when such fibres were being applied, removed, dislodged, cut, or drilled, before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (e) drinking at least 250 kilograms of absolute alcohol (contained within alcoholic drinks) before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (f) being exposed to herbicides in Vietnam before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (g) spraying or decanting insecticides or herbicides as an occupational requirement for at least 60 days, at a time or times before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the larynx; or
 - (h) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the larynx.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to (h)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(h)** applies only where:
- (a) the person's **malignant neoplasm of the larynx** 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 **malignant neoplasm of the larynx** 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:
- “absolute alcohol”** consumption calculations utilize the Australian Standard of 10 gm absolute alcohol per standard alcoholic drink;
- “being exposed to herbicides in Vietnam”** may be said to have occurred only if the person had:
- (a) rendered more than 30 days service on land in Vietnam; or
 - (b) regularly eaten fish, fish products, crustaceans, shellfish, or meat from Vietnam; or
 - (c) regularly eaten food cooked with water from Vietnam discoloured by sediment, or regularly drunk water from Vietnam discoloured by sediment; or

