

Statement of Principles
concerning
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

ICD CODE: 340

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **multiple sclerosis** and **death from multiple sclerosis** 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* (the Act), that the factor that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **multiple sclerosis** or **death from multiple sclerosis** with the circumstances of that service, is:
 - (a) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for multiple sclerosis.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) the factor set out in paragraph **1(a)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(a)** applies only where:
 - (a) the person's **multiple sclerosis** was contracted before a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and

(b) the relationship suggested between the **multiple sclerosis** 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:

“ICD code” means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the tenth edition of the *International Classification of Diseases 9th Revision*, effective date of 1 October 1993, copyrighted by the US Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities, and having the Library of Congress number 77-94472;

“multiple sclerosis” means a demyelinating disorder in which there is focal destruction of myelin sheaths in the central nervous system accompanied by an inflammatory response, attracting ICD code 340.

Dated this *Twenty-fifth* day of *May* 1995

The Common Seal of the)
Repatriation Medical Authority)
was affixed to this instrument)
in the presence of:)

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN