

Statement of Principles
concerning
MYASTHENIA GRAVIS

ICD CODE: 358.0

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **myasthenia gravis** and **death from myasthenia gravis** 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 **myasthenia gravis** or **death from myasthenia gravis** with the circumstances of that service, is:
 - (a) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for the myasthenia gravis.
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 **myasthenia gravis** developed before a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and

- (b) the relationship suggested between the **myasthenia gravis** 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;

“myasthenia gravis” means a neuromuscular disorder characterised by weakness and fatigability of skeletal muscles, due to autoimmune attack upon receptors at the neuromuscular junction, attracting ICD code 358.0.

Dated this *Twenty-first* day of *June*
1995

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN