

REVOKED

Determination

of

Statement of Principles concerning

MIGRAINE

ICD CODES: 346.0, 346.1, 346.8, 346.9

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

1. This Statement of Principles is determined by the Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(2)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act).

Kind of injury, disease or death

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **migraine** and **death from migraine**.

(b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, "**migraine**" means a recurring headache disorder manifesting in attacks lasting 4 to 72 hours, attracting ICD code 346.0, 346.1, 346.8 or 346.9. Typical characteristics of headache are unilateral location, pulsating quality, and association with nausea, photophobia or phonophobia. Headache may be preceded by neurological aura symptoms such as visual disturbances, unilateral paresthesias or numbness, unilateral weakness, or aphasia or unclassifiable speech difficulty. Headache may be completely absent in migraine with aura. Cluster headaches are not covered under migraine. Migraine is only diagnosed in the absence of underlying disorders such as intracranial structural anomalies or systemic disease or when such a disorder is present, migraine attacks did not occur for the first time in close temporal association to that disorder. For example, migraine occurring for the first time with significant head trauma should be considered under that Statement of Principles.

Basis for determining the factors

3. The Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **migraine** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans, members of Peacekeeping Forces, or members of the Forces.

Factors that must be related to service

4. Subject to clause 6, the factor set out in the paragraph in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

Factors

5. The factor that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **migraine** or **death from migraine** with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:
 - (a) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for migraine.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

6. Paragraph 5(a) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, migraine where the person's migraine was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service; paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d) or 70(5A)(d) of the Act refers.

Other definitions

7. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

“ICD code” means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the Australian Version of The International Classification of Diseases, 9th revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), effective date of 1 July 1995, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 22235 5;

“relevant service” means:

- (a) operational service; or
- (b) peacekeeping service; or
- (c) hazardous service.

Dated this *Sixteenth* day of *January* 1996

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

KEN DONALD
CHAIRMAN