

# Amendment of Statement of Principles

concerning

## LUMBAR SPONDYLOSIS

### ICD-10-AM CODES:

**M47.16, M47.17, M47.26, M47.27,  
M47.86, M47.87, M47.96, M47.97, M51.3**

### *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority amends, under subsection 196B(3) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act), Instrument No.47 of 2002 by:
  - A. in paragraph 5, deleting factor (f) and factor (s) and inserting in their place the following factors:
    - “(f) suffering an injury to the lumbar spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability of the lumbar spine before the clinical onset of lumbar spondylosis; or”
    - “(s) suffering an injury to the lumbar spine which has resulted in permanent ligamentous instability of the lumbar spine before the clinical worsening of lumbar spondylosis; or”
  - B. in paragraph 8, deleting the definition of “**permanent ligamentous instability**” and inserting in its place the following definition:

“**permanent ligamentous instability of the lumbar spine**’ means radiological evidence on flexion and extension lateral radiographs of either:

    - (i) anteroposterior motion of one vertebra over another in the lumbar spine that is greater than 4.5 mm, or

- (ii) angular motion between L1 and L2 greater than 15 degrees, or
- (iii) angular motion between L2 and L3 greater than 15 degrees, or
- (iv) angular motion between L3 and L4 greater than 15 degrees, or
- (v) angular motion between L4 and L5 greater than 20 degrees, or
- (vi) angular motion between L5 and S1 greater than 25 degrees;”

2. The amendments made by this instrument apply to all matters to which Instrument No.47 of 2002 and section 120B of the Act apply.

Dated this *Twenty-First* day of *November* 2002

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