



Australian Government  
Repatriation Medical Authority

Statement of Principles  
concerning  
**OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA**  
**No. 35 of 2015**

for the purposes of the  
*Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*  
and  
*Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*

**Title**

1. This Instrument may be cited as Statement of Principles concerning osteogenesis imperfecta No. 35 of 2015.

**Determination**

2. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(2)** and **(8)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA):
  - (a) revokes Instrument No. 59 of 2007 concerning osteogenesis imperfecta; and
  - (b) determines in its place this Statement of Principles.

**Kind of injury, disease or death**

3.
  - (a) This Statement of Principles is about **osteogenesis imperfecta** and **death from osteogenesis imperfecta**.
  - (b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, "**osteogenesis imperfecta**" means a genetic disorder of collagen biosynthesis which is characterised by a generalised decrease in bone mass, a propensity to fractures, hearing loss and other connective tissue abnormalities.
  - (c) Osteogenesis imperfecta attracts ICD-10-AM code Q78.0.
  - (d) In the application of this Statement of Principles, the definition of "**osteogenesis imperfecta**" is that given at paragraph 3(b) above.

### **Basis for determining the factors**

4. After examining the available sound medical-scientific evidence the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that the only factor that may be related to the cause of or material contribution to or aggravation of **osteogenesis imperfecta** or **death from osteogenesis imperfecta** and which can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans, members of Peacekeeping Forces, or members of the Forces under the VEA, or members under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (the MRCA) is that set out in clause 5.

### **Factors that must be related to service**

5. The factor that must as a minimum exist in relation to the circumstances of a person's relevant service causing or materially contributing to or aggravating **osteogenesis imperfecta** or **death from osteogenesis imperfecta** is inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for osteogenesis imperfecta.

### **Other definitions**

6. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

**"death from osteogenesis imperfecta"** in relation to a person includes death from a terminal event or condition that was contributed to by the person's osteogenesis imperfecta;

**"ICD-10-AM code"** means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), Eighth Edition, effective date of 1 July 2013, copyrighted by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, and having ISBN 978-1-74128-213-9;

**"relevant service"** means:

- (a) operational service under the VEA;
- (b) peacekeeping service under the VEA;
- (c) hazardous service under the VEA;
- (d) British nuclear test defence service under the VEA;
- (e) warlike service under the MRCA; or
- (f) non-warlike service under the MRCA;

**"terminal event"** means the proximate or ultimate cause of death and includes:

- (a) pneumonia;
- (b) respiratory failure;
- (c) cardiac arrest;
- (d) circulatory failure; or
- (e) cessation of brain function.

### **Application**

7. This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120A of the VEA or section 338 of the MRCA applies.

**Date of effect**

8. This Instrument takes effect from 27 January 2015.

Dated this **nineteenth** day of **December** 2014

The Common Seal of the  
Repatriation Medical Authority  
was affixed at the direction of: )  
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PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO  
CHAIRPERSON