

REVOKED

Statement of Principles

concerning

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE STOMACH

ICD CODE: 151

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
subsection 196B(2)

1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **malignant neoplasm of the stomach and death from malignant neoplasm of the stomach** 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*, that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **malignant neoplasm of the stomach or death from malignant neoplasm of the stomach**, with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) smoking at least 15 pack-years, more than five years before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the stomach; or
 - (b) infection with *Helicobacter pylori* before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the stomach; or
 - (c) having a gastric resection; or

- (d) being within four kilometres of the epicentre of the atomic bomb explosions on Hiroshima or Nagasaki within seven days of the explosion on that city; or
 - (e) applying, cutting, spraying, drilling, or removing asbestos materials as a significant part of the person's work for at least two years;
 - (f) receiving a course of therapeutic radiation involving the area of the stomach; or
 - (g) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the stomach.
2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs **1(a) to 1(g)** must be related to any service rendered by a person.
3. The factor set out in paragraph **1(g)** applies only where:
- (a) the person's malignant neoplasm of the stomach was contracted prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
 - (b) the relationship suggested between malignant neoplasm of the stomach 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:

“a course” means five or more episodes of treatment within a 125 day period;

“gastric resection” means the surgical excision or alteration of the stomach;

“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;

“infection with *Helicobacter pylori*” may be presumed if the person was, for at least 180 days, living in a community with:

- (a) overcrowded conditions with poor hygiene; and
- (b) shared eating facilities and utensils; and
- (c) limited opportunities for bathing.

