

**Revocation and Determination**

of

**Statement of Principles**  
concerning

**MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE  
PANCREAS**

**ICD CODE: 157**

*Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

1. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(2)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the Act):
  - (a) revokes Instrument No.21 of 1994; and
  - (b) determines the following Statement of Principles.

**Kind of injury, disease or death**

2. (a) This Statement of Principles is about **malignant neoplasm of the pancreas** and **death from malignant neoplasm of the pancreas**.
- (b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, “**malignant neoplasm of the pancreas**” means a primary malignant neoplasm arising from the cells of the pancreas, attracting ICD code 157, but excluding soft tissue sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease of the pancreas.

Note to user (this note does not form part of the legal wording of the instrument):

If soft tissue sarcoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma or Hodgkin's disease of the pancreas is claimed, reference is to be made to the relevant Statement of Principles for that disease.

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

3. On the sound medical-scientific evidence available, the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that it is more probable than not that **malignant neoplasm of the pancreas and death from malignant neoplasm of the pancreas** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces.

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

4. Subject to clause 6, the factors set out in at least one of the paragraphs in clause 5 must be related to any relevant service rendered by the person.

### **Factors**

5. 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 pancreas** or **death from malignant neoplasm of the pancreas** with the circumstances of a person's relevant service are:
  - (a) for primary malignant neoplasm of the exocrine pancreas only:
    - (i) smoking at least ten pack-years of cigarettes, or the equivalent thereof in other tobacco products, before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas, and, where smoking has ceased, the clinical onset has occurred within 20 years of cessation; or
    - (ii) suffering from diabetes mellitus for at least five years immediately before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or
    - (iii) suffering from chronic pancreatitis for at least five years immediately before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or
    - (iv) being occupationally required to spray or decant DDT for:
      - (a) an average of three or more days per week for at least one year; or
      - (b) for a period or periods of time totalling at least 156 days,  
  
before the clinical onset of malignant neoplasm of the pancreas; or

- (b) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for malignant neoplasm of the pancreas.

### **Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation**

- 6. Paragraph 5(b) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, malignant neoplasm of the pancreas where the person's malignant neoplasm of the pancreas 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:

**“chronic pancreatitis”** means a continuing inflammatory disease of the pancreas characterised by irreversible morphological change that is typically associated with pain or permanent impairment of exocrine (steatorrhoea) or endocrine (diabetes mellitus) function or both, attracting ICD code 577.1;

**“DDT”** means a complex synthetic mixture in which para, para'-dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane predominates;

**“diabetes mellitus”** means an endocrine disease characterised by:

- (a) a fasting venous plasma glucose concentration of equal to or greater than 7.8 millimoles per litre on at least two separate occasions; or
- (b) a venous plasma glucose concentration equal to or greater than 11.1 millimoles per litre both within two hours and at two hours after ingestion of 75 grams of glucose,

attracting ICD code 250;

**“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 1996, copyrighted by the National Coding Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 0 642 24447 2;

**“malignant neoplasm of the exocrine pancreas”** means a neoplasm which arises in the cells of the exocrine pancreas, including duct cell adenocarcinoma, giant cell carcinoma, adenosquamous carcinoma, microcystadenocarcinoma, mucinous adenocarcinoma and

cystadenocarcinoma, but excluding islet cell tumors, such as insulinomas, glucagonomas, somatostatinomas, vipomas, or carcinoid of the pancreas;

“**pack-year**” means 7 300 cigarettes, or 1 460 cigars, or 7.3 kg of pipe tobacco;

“**relevant service**” means:

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

### **Application**

8. This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120A of the Act applies.

Dated this **Fourth** day of **July** 1997

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

KEN DONALD  
CHAIRMAN