



Australian Government
Repatriation Medical Authority

Statement of Principles
concerning

ADENOCARCINOMA OF THE KIDNEY

No. 10 of 2013

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 adenocarcinoma of the kidney No. 10 of 2013.

Determination

2. The Repatriation Medical Authority under subsection **196B(3)** and **(8)** of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA):
 - (a) revokes Instrument No. 88 of 2001 concerning adenocarcinoma of the kidney; and
 - (b) determines in its place this Statement of Principles.

Kind of injury, disease or death

3.
 - (a) This Statement of Principles is about **adenocarcinoma of the kidney** and **death from adenocarcinoma of the kidney**.
 - (b) For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, "**adenocarcinoma of the kidney**" means a primary malignant neoplasm arising from the renal tubular epithelium. It is also known as renal cell carcinoma, renal adenocarcinoma, hypernephroma or clear cell carcinoma. This definition includes renal medullary carcinoma and excludes soft tissue sarcoma, carcinoid tumour, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Hodgkin's lymphoma.
 - (c) Adenocarcinoma of the kidney attracts ICD-10-AM code C64.

- (d) In the application of this Statement of Principles, the definition of "**adenocarcinoma of the kidney**" is that given at paragraph 3(b) above.

Basis for determining the factors

4. On the sound medical-scientific evidence available, the Repatriation Medical Authority is of the view that it is more probable than not that **adenocarcinoma of the kidney** and **death from adenocarcinoma of the kidney** can be related to relevant service rendered by veterans or members of the Forces under the VEA, or members under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (the MRCA).

Factors that must be related to service

5. Subject to clause 7, at least one of the factors set out in clause 6 must be related to the relevant service rendered by the person.

Factors

6. The factor that must exist before it can be said that, on the balance of probabilities, **adenocarcinoma of the kidney** or **death from adenocarcinoma of the kidney** is connected with the circumstances of a person's relevant service is:
- (a) smoking at least 20 pack-years of cigarettes, or the equivalent thereof in other tobacco products, before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney, and
 - (i) smoking commenced at least ten years before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; and
 - (ii) where smoking has ceased, the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney has occurred within 20 years of cessation; or
 - (b) being obese for a continuous period of at least five years before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or
 - (c) having end stage renal disease before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or
 - (d) having hypertension for a period of at least five years before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or
 - (e) an inability to consume an average of at least 200 grams per day of any combination of fruits and vegetables, for a period of at least five consecutive years within the 25 years before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or
 - (f) having received a cumulative equivalent dose of at least 0.5 sievert of ionising radiation to the kidney at least ten years before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or
 - (g) for renal medullary carcinoma only, having sickle cell disorder before the clinical onset of adenocarcinoma of the kidney; or

- (h) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for adenocarcinoma of the kidney.

Factors that apply only to material contribution or aggravation

7. Paragraph 6(h) applies only to material contribution to, or aggravation of, adenocarcinoma of the kidney where the person's adenocarcinoma of the kidney was suffered or contracted before or during (but not arising out of) the person's relevant service.

Inclusion of Statements of Principles

8. In this Statement of Principles if a relevant factor applies and that factor includes an injury or disease in respect of which there is a Statement of Principles then the factors in that last mentioned Statement of Principles apply in accordance with the terms of that Statement of Principles as in force from time to time.

Other definitions

9. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

"being obese" means an increase in body weight by way of fat accumulation which results in a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or greater.

The $BMI = W/H^2$ and where:

W is the person's weight in kilograms; and

H is the person's height in metres;

"cumulative equivalent dose" means the total dose of ionising radiation received by the particular organ or tissue. The formula used to calculate the cumulative equivalent dose allows doses from multiple types of ionising radiation to be combined, by accounting for their differing biological effect. The unit of equivalent dose is the sievert. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles, the calculation of cumulative equivalent dose excludes doses received from normal background radiation, but includes therapeutic radiation, diagnostic radiation, cosmic radiation at high altitude, radiation from occupation related sources and radiation from nuclear explosions or accidents;

"death from adenocarcinoma of the kidney" in relation to a person includes death from a terminal event or condition that was contributed to by the person's adenocarcinoma of the kidney;

"end stage renal disease" means renal disease of sufficient severity to require dialysis or renal transplantation;

"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), Seventh Edition, effective date of 1 July 2010, copyrighted by the National Centre for Classification in Health, Sydney, NSW, and having ISBN 978 1 74210 154 5;

"pack-years of cigarettes, or the equivalent thereof in other tobacco products" means a calculation of consumption where one pack-year of

cigarettes equals twenty tailor-made cigarettes per day for a period of one calendar year, or 7300 cigarettes. One tailor-made cigarette approximates one gram of tobacco or one gram of cigar or pipe tobacco by weight. One pack-year of tailor-made cigarettes equates to 7.3 kilograms of smoking tobacco by weight. Tobacco products means either cigarettes, pipe tobacco or cigars, smoked alone or in any combination;

"relevant service" means:

- (a) eligible war service (other than operational service) under the VEA;
- (b) defence service (other than hazardous service and British nuclear test defence service) under the VEA; or
- (c) peacetime 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

- 10.** This Instrument applies to all matters to which section 120B of the VEA or section 339 of the MRCA applies.

Date of effect

- 11.** This Instrument takes effect from 9 January 2013.

Dated this *fourteenth* day of *December* 2012

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

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS SAUNDERS AO
CHAIRPERSON