

**MINUTES of the TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTH MEETING of the
REPATRIATION MEDICAL AUTHORITY
HELD ONLINE ON TUESDAY 2 AUGUST 2022**

PRESENT:

PROFESSOR Terence CAMPBELL	RMA CHAIRPERSON
PROFESSOR Gerard BYRNE	RMA MEMBER
PROFESSOR Flavia CICUTTINI	RMA MEMBER
PROFESSOR Jenny DOUST	RMA MEMBER
PROFESSOR Michael HENSLEY	RMA MEMBER
Ms Amanda EVANS	REGISTRAR AND LEGAL COUNSEL
	RMA DEPUTY REGISTRAR
	PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER
	PRINCIPAL MEDICAL RESEARCHER
	RMA MEDICAL RESEARCHER
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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND GIFTS

The Chairperson asked members whether the agenda necessitated any further or amended declaration to the lodged declarations. No Member had any interest that required an amendment to their lodged declaration.

The Chairperson also asked members whether they had received any gifts and benefits in the course of their official duties with the Authority. No Member had received any such gift or benefit.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2022 were confirmed.

INVESTIGATIONS

Outstanding investigations

A report prepared by the Registrar was submitted regarding the current outstanding investigations previously notified by the Authority.

Work plans

The 2022 work plan was circulated and the current progress and future workloads noted by the Authority.

Other investigations The investigations previously notified in regard to Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal, epilepsy, steatohepatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, conjunctivitis, asthma and ‘pack year’ definitions were finalised at the meeting.

The Authority, following discussion, deferred until a subsequent meeting the investigations previously notified concerning atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter, periodic limb movement disorder and malignant neoplasm of the prostate.

INSTRUMENTS

After consideration of the information available to it as set out in Schedule 1 in respect of investigations previously notified, as well as an assessment of the compatibility of the new Instruments with human rights and freedoms recognised in relevant international instruments, the Authority agreed to determine new SOPs referred to as follows:

NEW INSTRUMENT TITLE	VEA PROVISION
94/2022 Veterans’ Entitlements (Statements of principles- ‘one pack year’ definition) Amendment determination 2022	Subsections 196B(2), 196B(3) and 196B(8)

After consideration of the information available to it as set out in Schedule 1 in respect of investigations previously notified concerning the contents of SOPs, as well as an assessment of the compatibility of the new Instruments with human rights and freedoms recognised in relevant international instruments, the Authority revoked the following SOPs and agreed to determine new SOPs as follows:

REVOKED INSTRUMENT TITLE	NEW INSTRUMENT TITLE	VEA PROVISION
No. 84 of 2014 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma]	Statement of Principles concerning mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma (Reasonable Hypothesis) No. 78 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No.85 of 2014 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma]	Statement of Principles concerning mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma (Balance of Probabilities) No. 79 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)

REVOKED INSTRUMENT TITLE	NEW INSTRUMENT TITLE	VEA PROVISION
No. 76 of 2014 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning Creutzfeld-Jakob disease]	Statement of Principles concerning Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (Reasonable Hypothesis) No.80 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 77 of 2014 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning Creutzfeld-Jakob disease]	Statement of Principles concerning Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (Balance of Probabilities) No 81 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)
No.51 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal]	Statement of Principles concerning malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal (Reasonable Hypothesis) No.82 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 52 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal]	Statement of Principles concerning malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal (Balance of Probabilities) No.83 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 75 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning epilepsy]	Statement of Principles concerning epilepsy (Reasonable Hypothesis) No. 84 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 76 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning epilepsy]	Statement of Principles concerning epilepsy (Balance of Probabilities) No.85 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 79 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning steatohepatitis]	Statement of Principles concerning steatohepatitis (Reasonable Hypothesis) No. 86 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No. 80 of 2013 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning steatohepatitis]	Statement of Principles concerning steatohepatitis (Balance of Probabilities) No. 87 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)

After consideration of the information available to it as set out in Schedule 1 in respect of investigations previously notified concerning the contents of the following SOPs, as well as an assessment of the compatibility of the new Instruments with human rights and freedoms recognised in relevant international instruments, the Authority determined the following new instruments amending these SOPs:

INSTRUMENT TITLE	AMENDING INSTRUMENT TITLE	VEA PROVISION
No. 1 of 2021 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning allergic contact dermatitis]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning allergic contact dermatitis (Reasonable Hypothesis) No.88 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)

No.2 of 2021 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning allergic contact dermatitis]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning allergic contact dermatitis (Balance of Probabilities) No.89 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)
No.76 of 2020 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning conjunctivitis]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning conjunctivitis (Reasonable Hypothesis) No. 90 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No.77 of 2020 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning conjunctivitis]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning conjunctivitis (Balance of Probabilities) No.91 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)
No.31 of 2021 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(2) concerning asthma]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning asthma (Reasonable Hypothesis) No. 92 of 2022	Subsection 196B(2) Subsection 196B(8)
No.32 of 2021 [Statement of Principles under subsection 196B(3) concerning asthma]	Amendment Statement of Principles concerning asthma (Balance of Probabilities) No. 93 of 2022	Subsection 196B(3) Subsection 196B(8)

GENERAL BUSINESS

The members of the Authority welcomed [REDACTED] the new adviser from the Department of Defence and Amanda Evans as new Registrar of the RMA.

[REDACTED] – Principal Medical Officer

The Authority noted the retirement of [REDACTED] as Principal Medical Officer. As this was [REDACTED] last meeting the other members of the Authority and the staff took the opportunity to express their gratitude to her for her contribution to the work of the Authority. [REDACTED] would act in [REDACTED] position until such time as the vacancy could be advertised and filled permanently.

NEXT MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, 4 October 2022.
VENUE: RMA Offices, Brisbane, QLD

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CHAIRPERSON

02 / 08 / 2022

SCHEDULE 1

Information available to the Repatriation Medical Authority (s196K of the VEA)

INSTRUMENT TITLE	INFORMATION CONSIDERED
STATEMENTS OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING MATURE B-CELL LYMPHOID LEUKAEMIA AND SMALL LYMPHOCYTIC LYMPHOMA NOS. 78 and 79 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma • Reference list in relation to the investigation into mature B-cell lymphoid leukaemia and small lymphocytic lymphoma .
STATEMENTS OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE NOS. 80 AND 81 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF THE ANUS AND ANAL CANAL NOS. 82 AND 83 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into malignant neoplasm of the anus and anal canal.
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING EPILEPSY NOS. 84 AND 85 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into epilepsy prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into epilepsy prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into epilepsy; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into epilepsy.

INSTRUMENT TITLE	INFORMATION CONSIDERED
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING STEATOHEPATITIS NOS. 86 AND 87 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into steatohepatitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into steatohepatitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into steatohepatitis ; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into steatohepatitis .
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING ALLERGIC CONTACT DERMATITIS NOS. 88 AND 89 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into allergic contact dermatitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into allergic contact dermatitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into allergic contact dermatitis; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into allergic contact dermatitis.
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING CONJUNCTIVITIS NOS. 90 AND 91 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into conjunctivitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into conjunctivitis prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into conjunctivitis; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into conjunctivitis.
AMENDMENT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING ASTHMA NOS. 92 AND 93 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing paper in relation to the investigation into asthma prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Comparison table in relation to the investigation into asthma prepared by the RMA Secretariat; • Submissions & other information received in relation to the investigation into asthma; • Reference list in relation to the investigation into asthma.
VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS (STATEMENTS OF PRINCIPLES- 'ONE PACK YEAR' DEFINITION) AMENDMENT DETERMINATION 2022 NO. 94 OF 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 showing Statements of Principles amended