



Specialist Medical Review Council

Declaration

*Section 196W
Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

**Re: Statement of Principles No. 153 of 1996 as amended by Instrument No. 7 of 1998
In Respect of Malignant Neoplasm of the Small Intestine**

Matter No. 2002/2
Requests for Review Declaration No. 8

1. In relation to the Repatriation Medical Authority (the RMA) Statement of Principles No. 153 of 1996 as amended by Instrument No. 7 of 1998, both made under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (the VEA) in respect of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine and death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine, the Specialist Medical Review Council (the Council) declares under section 196W(5) of the VEA that it is of the view that the sound medical-scientific evidence available to the RMA at the time it determined, amended or last amended the Statement of Principles was insufficient to justify:

- (a) an amendment of the Statement of Principles by including as a factor or factors exposure to:
 - (i) barium meal x-rays;
 - (ii) peptic ulceration;
 - (iii) helicobacter pylori infection;
 - (iv) cimetidine and abdominal irritation from numerous medications; and
 - (v) exposure to nitrosamines; and
- (b) any other amendment of that Statement of Principles.

2 The Council recommends that the RMA carry out an investigation to find out if there is new information available about:

- (a) how malignant neoplasm of the small intestine may be contracted, or death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine occur; and
- (b) the extent to which malignant neoplasm of the small intestine or death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine may be war caused or defence caused

and in particular, to find out if there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that exposure to nitrosamines is a link or element in a reasonable hypothesis connecting operational service to malignant neoplasm of the small intestine and death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine.

3. An investigation should take into account the sound medical-scientific evidence previously considered by the RMA (including those articles mentioned in paragraph 89 of the Council's Reasons for Decision) together with any new body of sound medical-scientific evidence disclosed by the investigation.



Alexander Kevin
Cohen
Presiding Councillor



Barry James
Marshall
Councillor



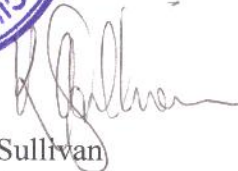
David John
Longstaff Joske
Councillor



Gerald Anthony
Ryan
Councillor



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Specialist Medical Review)
Council was affixed to this)
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Council in the presence of:)



Kevin O'Sullivan
Registrar

Dated this 27th day of February 2003

The Council's Reasons for Decisions in relation to this Declaration can be obtained on request by writing to the Specialist Medical Review Council Secretariat, PO Box 895, Woden ACT 2606 or by telephoning (03) 9284 6784.