Specialist Medical Review Council

Declaration

Section 196W
Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986

Re: Statements of Principles Nos. 40 and 41 of 2004
In Respect of Malignant Neoplasm of the Small Intestine
Matter Nos. 2006/1 & 2
Requests for Review Declaration No. 12

1 In relation to the Repatriation Medical Authority (the RMA) Statement of Principles No. 40 of 2004 in respect of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine and death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine, made under subsection 196B (2) of the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (the VEA), the Specialist Medical Review Council (the Council) under subsection 196W (4) of the VEA:

DECLARES that it is of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence on which the RMA could have relied to amend the Statement of Principles to include the factors set out below;

DIRECTS the RMA to amend Statement of Principles No. 40 of 2004 by including each of those factors; and

FURTHER DIRECTS the RMA to determine and specify exposure criteria (including amount, frequency, and duration of a consumption habit) for each of those factors, having regard to the Council's comments in that regard as herein set out:
Factors to be included in Statement of Principles No. 40 of 2004

a) a dietary factor, namely exposure to fried, barbecued, salt cured or smoked foods, including ham, bacon, red meat and fish, consumed at least 3 times each week for at least 20 years;

b) a factor referable to exposure to more than 24 g of alcohol per day from beer or spirits;

c) a factor concerning obesity in men; and

d) so far as carcinoma of the first part (the bulb) of the duodenum only is concerned, Helicobacter pylori infection of long duration.

2 In relation to the RMA Statement of Principles No. 41 of 2004 in respect of malignant neoplasm of the small intestine and death from malignant neoplasm of the small intestine, made under subsection 196B (3) of the VEA the Council under subsection 196W (5) of the VEA:

DECLAR ES that it is of the view that the sound medical-scientific evidence available to the RMA is insufficient to justify any amendment of the Statement of Principles.

Charles Stuart
Guest

Gregory James
Lockrey

Donald James
Bourne St John

Michael Henry
Jefford

Presiding
Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

The Common Seal of the
Specialist Medical Review
Council was affixed to this
document by authority of the
Council in the presence of:

Martin Leslie Page
Registrar

Dated this 29th day of June 2009

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