



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group

SOP Bulletin No. 159

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THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPs ARE TO TAKE EFFECT ON 11 JULY, 2012

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| New SOPs | Nil |
| Revocations & Replacements | Malignant neoplasm of the cervix Endometriosis Porphyria cutanea tarda Pes planus |
| Amendments | Macular degeneration |

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

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| Malignant neoplasm of the cervix | Revocation – 39 & 40 of '12 Replaces 41 and 42 of '97 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The previous smoking factor doses have been halved.• There is a new type of onset factor (RH and BOP) for being prevented from accessing appropriate screening (PAP smears) before onset.• There is a new RH only onset factor for having concurrent treatment for SLE with steroids and immunomodulatory agents.• The previous worsening factors (except inability to obtain ACM) have been removed. | |
| Endometriosis | Revocation – 41 & 42 of '12 Replaces 7 and 8 of '04 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The previous (RH only) factor for a serum TCDD level has been removed.• There is a new RH only (onset and worsening) factor for a BMI of < 20.• The tamoxifen therapy factor, previously restricted to post menopausal women only, now applies to all women.• The local trauma or surgery factor, previously said 'at least six months before' clinical onset, but now says 'within the six months before'. | |
| Porphyria cutanea tarda | Revocation – 43 & 44 of '12 |

Replaces 19 and 20 of '01

- There is a new RH only factor for smoking (onset and worsening).
- There are new RH and BOP factors (onset and worsening) for dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD), sunlight exposure, and treatment with a wide range of drugs.
- The halogenated aromatic hydrocarbon RH factor now requires exposure within 2 years (previously 10 years). The time frame in the BOP factor remains at one year.
- The alcohol dependence or abuse factor has been replaced by male and female factors with minimum quantities of alcohol consumption.
- Three previous liver disease factors have been combined into one factor.
- An iron overload factor replaces the previous factors for haemosiderosis and haemochromatosis.

Pes planus

Revocation – 45 & 46 of '12

Replaces 61 and 62 of '01
as amended by 5 & 6 of '02

- There are new worsening factors (RH and BOP) for (i) walking while carrying ≥ 15 kg loads and (ii) running.
- The only other changes are minor wording changes and formatting updates.

Macular degeneration

Amendment – 47 of '12

Amends 13 of '09

- The SMRC, following a review, has directed the RMA to include a new passive smoking factor in the RH SOP. The new factor applies only to late macular degeneration and only to passive smoking within the 20 years before the clinical onset of the disease.

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