



**Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group**



# SOP Bulletin No. 147



8 November 2010

**THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS ARE TO TAKE EFFECT ON 10 NOVEMBER, 2010**

|                                       |   |
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| <b>New SOPs</b>                       | <b>Labral tear<br/>Morton's metatarsalgia</b>   |
| <b>Revocations &amp; Replacements</b> | <b>Ross river virus infection<br/>Poisoning and toxic reaction from plants and fungi<br/>Schistosomiasis<br/>Strongyloidiasis</b> |
| <b>Amendments</b>                     | <b>Ischaemic heart disease</b>  |

**NOTEWORTHY FEATURES**

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| <b>Labral tear</b> | <b>New – 94 &amp; 95 of '10</b> |
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- This new SOP is another in a series aimed at giving SOP coverage to commonly claimed MRCA non-SOP conditions.
- A labral tear is an injury to the rim of the socket in the ball and socket joints of the shoulder and hip. This SOP covers acute and chronic injuries (but not degeneration), including S.L.A.P. tears.

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| <b>Morton's metatarsalgia</b> | <b>New – 92 &amp; 93 of '10</b> |
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- This is a new SOP. It is not a revocation and replacement of the existing SOP concerning metatarsalgia. That SOP remains in force. It is likely to be revoked and not replaced, but that has not yet been finalised.
- Morton's metatarsalgia is pain in the forefoot from entrapment or impingement of a nerve between metatarsal bones.
- The SOP has a range of causal factors for conditions that damage or compress the relevant part of the foot.

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| <b>Ross river virus infection</b> | <b>Revocation – 90 &amp; 91 of '10</b><br>Replaces 79 and 80 of '97 |
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- The name of this SOP has been changed from Ross river fever (not everyone gets a fever). The SOP only covers people with symptomatic, current infection. The condition usually resolves within 6 months. Serology is required for diagnosis.
- The previous factor for increased risk of mosquito bite while in an endemic area has been changed to just being in an endemic area. The definition describing the endemic area contains fewer countries, but still includes all of Australia.
- There is a new factor, for being bitten by an infected mosquito, that can apply outside of an endemic area.
- The maximum time to onset of symptoms in the RH SOP has been shortened from 30 to 21 days.

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| <b>Poisoning and toxic reaction from plants and fungi</b> | <b>Revocation – 84 &amp; 85 of '10</b><br>Replaces 164 and 165 of '95 |
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- This SOP and the next two SOPs have been updated as part of a rolling process of reviewing and replacing the oldest RMA SOPs.
- The name of the SOP has been amended to include fungi (which are not plants).
- The definition has been amended to explicitly include poisoning from herbal medicines and from plants that may be used recreationally as illicit drugs.
- Exposure must now be in the seven days before onset, with two exceptions. There are two new factors for exposure to white snakeroot and a pyrrolizidine alkaloid, that have longer exposure windows.

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| <b>Schistosomiasis</b> | <b>Revocation – 86 &amp; 87 of '10</b><br>Replaces 255 and 256 of '95 |
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- The disease definition has been amended to add a further species of Schistosome (blood fluke) to the list.
- The schedule of countries / areas where infection could be acquired has been removed from the SOP, with the only causal factor modified to reflect this change.

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| <b>Strongyloidiasis</b> | <b>Revocation – 88 &amp; 89 of '10</b><br>Replaces 282 and 283 of '95 |
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- The previous factor for "living in unhygienic conditions" has been replaced by a factor for "having cutaneous or mucosal contact with" Strongyloides larvae.
- There is a new factor for having an organ transplant (with an infected organ).

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| <b>Ischaemic heart disease</b> | <b>Amendment – 96 &amp; 97 of '10</b><br>Amends 89 and 90 of '07<br>as amended by 43 & 44 of '09 |
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- The amendments chiefly concern exposures to pesticides. New onset and worsening factors have been added for exposure to 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T and 2,3,7,8-TCDD (all RH only) and for cholinergic poisoning by an organophosphorus ester (RH & BOP – for acute myocardial infarct only).

**Contact Officers for this bulletin:**

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Dr Jon Kelley   | 48412 |
| Dr Edwin Nicoll | 48583 |

