



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Compensation & Income Support Policy Branch

SOP Bulletin No. 200

15 January 2018

THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS TAKE EFFECT ON 29 JANUARY, 2018

New SOPs	Zika virus infection
Revocations & Replacements	Cerebral meningioma Malignant neoplasm of the cerebral meninges Non-freezing cold injury Migraine Malignant neoplasm of the ovary Frostbite Hepatitis C
Amendments	Nil

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Zika virus infection	New – 15 & 16 of 2018
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- This new SOP covers laboratory confirmed clinically apparent infection with the Zika virus.

- Exposure to the virus needs to have been within 21 days before clinical onset.

Cerebral meningioma	Revocation – 1 & 2 of 2018 Replaces 19 & 20 of 2009
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- There are new factors for: being overweight (RH only) or obese; pregnancy; progesterone drugs; and hormone replacement therapy (RH only).

Malignant neoplasm of the cerebral meninges	Revocation – 3 & 4 of 2018 Replaces 21 & 22 of 2009
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- The factors in this SOP have been aligned with those in the cerebral meningioma SOP, with the same new factors being added.

Non-freezing cold injury	Revocation – 5 & 6 of 2018 Replaces 25 & 26 of 2009
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- The name of the SOP has been changed – from immersion foot (AKA trench foot).
- The SOP now also covers the hands, but excludes chilblains (a separate SOP) and tropical immersion foot.
- The condition may cause ongoing manifestations, which can be serious in some cases (e.g. neuropathic pain).

Migraine	Revocation – 7 & 8 of 2018 Replaces 56 & 57 of 2009
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- The definition has been updated to reflect current thinking (which includes a move away from the notion that vasoconstriction plays a role).
- This SOP previously had no onset factors.
- The previous nitroglycerin worsening factor has been expanded to cover nitric oxide donors and extended to clinical onset.
- There is a new RH only onset and worsening factor for severe and persistent asthma.
- There is a new worsening factor (RH and BOP) for obesity.
- There is a new definition of clinical worsening of migraine. Although that term is now defined, it is still necessary when determining claims to consider whether there has been worsening of the condition, over and above the normal course of the disease, and arising due to relevant service rendered after the onset of the condition.

Malignant neoplasm of the ovary**Revocation – 9 & 10 of 2018**

Replaces 70 & 71 of 2009

- The asbestos and obesity onset factors have been extended, from RH only to both RH and BOP.
- The smoking factor has been amended, by adding latency requirements.
- There is a new breast feeding (inability to) factor.

Frostbite**Revocation – 11 & 12 of 2018**

Replaces 23 & 24 of 2009

- There has been minor updating of the definition with no change in application.
- The single onset factor now has the same exposure window (24 hours before onset) in the RH and BOP SOPs.

Hepatitis C**Revocation – 13 & 14 of 2018**

Replaces 54 & 55 of 2008

- The definition has been updated to clarify the distinction between acute (symptomatic) and chronic infection, and the laboratory testing requirements to confirm each.
- There are associated factor changes, with a number of factors now applying for chronic infection only.
- The alcohol worsening factor has been split, with new lower doses for females.
- A new RH only worsening factor has been added for treatment with rituximab.
- An obesity worsening factor has been removed from the BOP SOP.

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