



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group**

**SOP Bulletin No. 179**

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**THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS ARE TO TAKE EFFECT ON 27 JANUARY, 2015**

<b>New SOPs</b>	<b>Trochanteric bursitis and gluteal tendinopathy</b>
<b>Revocations &amp; Replacements</b>	<b>Malignant neoplasm of the small intestine Malignant neoplasm of the testis and paratesticular tissues Soft tissue sarcoma Epicondylitis Shin splints Tinea Decompression sickness Pulmonary barotrauma Dysbaric osteonecrosis SOPs for 13 hereditary and congenital disorders</b>
<b>Amendments</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**NOTEWORTHY FEATURES**

<b>Trochanteric bursitis and gluteal tendinopathy</b>	<b>New – 45 &amp; 46 of '15</b>
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- This is a new SOP covering two similar, predominantly overuse related, inflammatory / degenerative disorders occurring in the upper outer thigh.

<b>Malignant neoplasm of the small intestine</b>	<b>Revocation – 1 &amp; 2 of '14</b> Replaces 40 and 41 of '04 As amended by 19 of 2010
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- Previous RH only factors for specified foods, alcohol, Helicobacter pylori infection have been removed.
- The previously male only obesity factor now covers both genders.

<b>Malignant neoplasm of the testis and paratesticular tissues</b>	<b>Revocation – 3 &amp; 4 of '15</b> Replaces 15 and 16 of '04
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- There is a new RH only factor for HIV infection.

<b>Soft tissue sarcoma</b>	<b>Revocation – 5 &amp; 6 of '15</b> Replaces 13 and 14 of '06 as amended by 35 & 36 of '08 and 73 & 74 of '11
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- The dose for the factor concerning an agent contaminated by TCDD is now expressed in hours rather than days.
- There is a new RH only factor, applying to a uterine sarcoma only, for diabetes.

<b>Epicondylitis</b>	<b>Revocation – 7 &amp; 8 of '15</b> Replaces 52 and 53 of '04
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In the RH SOP:

- The previous factor concerning forceful and repetitive movements has been modified to now cover sustained activities as well.
- The previous factor covered undertaking such activities over an extended period. A second factor has been added to cover a sudden increase in such activities over a shorter term.

<b>Shin splints</b>	<b>Revocation – 9 &amp; 10 of '15</b> Replaces 49 and 50 of '06
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- New factors have been added (RH & BOP, onset & worsening) for running a minimum distance per week (30/60 km) for the month before onset.
- The weight bearing exercise factor doses have been modified, with changes to the required minimum frequency, duration and intensity of exercise.

<b>Tinea</b>	<b>Revocation – 11 &amp; 12 of '15</b> Replaces 13 and 14 of '04
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- This SOP now also covers tinea of the nails (tinea unguium).
- There are new factors covering exposure to the causative organism, with an associated definition specifying the circumstances of exposure.

- There is a reworded factor and a new definition for “an immunocompromised state as specified”, which will now become the standard format for similar factors in a range of SOPs.

<b>Decompression sickness</b>	<b>Revocation – 13 &amp; 14 of ‘15</b> Replaces 43 and 44 of ‘06
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- In the BOP SOP the time to onset following an episode of decompression has been extended from 3 to 7 days.

<b>Pulmonary barotrauma</b>	<b>Revocation – 15 &amp; 16 of ‘15</b> Replaces 45 and 46 of ‘06
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- There is a new onset factor (RH & BOP) covering cocaine use.

<b>Dysbaric osteonecrosis</b>	<b>Revocation – 17 &amp; 18 of ‘15</b> Replaces 47 and 48 of ‘06
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The modified factors now cover hyperbaric exposure (increased barometric pressure) either:

- of a minimum dose, in different circumstances as specified, or
- that was sufficient to have resulted in decompression sickness.

<b>Hereditary and congenital disorder SOPs</b>	<b>Revocations – 19 to 44 of ‘15</b>
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- The RMA has updated the SOPs for the following hereditary or congenital conditions:
  - Albinism 19 & 20 of 2015
  - Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease 21 & 22 of 2015
  - Haemophilia 23 & 24 of 2015
  - Marfan syndrome 25 & 26 of 2015
  - Gaucher’s disease 27 & 28 of 2015
  - Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency 29 & 30 of 2015
  - Horseshoe kidney 31 & 32 of 2015
  - Wilson’s disease 33 & 34 of 2015
  - Osteogenesis imperfecta 35 & 36 of 2015
  - Huntington’s chorea 37 & 38 of 2015
  - Autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease 39 & 40 of 2015
  - von Willibrand’s disease 41 & 42 of 2015
  - Multiple osteochondromatosis 43 & 44 of 2015
- None of these SOPs has any factors for clinical onset. Most have only an inability to obtain appropriate clinical management (worsening) factor. There are new worsening factors for:
  - Smoking in Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency;
  - Specified drugs in Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease; and
  - Pregnancy in Marfan syndrome and von Willibrand’s disease.
- A further group of SOPs for hereditary / congenital conditions are still under review.

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