



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group

SOP Bulletin No. 195

13 March 2017

THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS TAKE EFFECT ON 27 MARCH, 2017

New SOPs	Nil
Revocations & Replacements	Presbyopia Spondylolisthesis and spondylolysis
Amendments	Suicide and attempted suicide

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Presbyopia	Revocation - 22 & 23 of '17 Replaces 117 and 118 of '07
-------------------	--

- There are no material changes. The SOP format/template has been updated.

Spondylolisthesis and spondylolysis**Revocation - 24 & 25 of '17**
Replaces 59 and 60 of '15

- Retrolisthesis (backward displacement of a vertebra) has been added to the conditions covered by the SOP. Previously only forward displacement (anterolisthesis) was covered.
- The repetitive and forceful activities factor has been changed by: extending the factor coverage to now include the cervical spine (previously lumbar spine only); reducing the hours in the BOP SOP to match the RH SOP (10 hrs per week); and providing a note that gives examples of activities that can involve the required movements.
- The spondylosis factor and the two factors covering spinal surgery are also now no longer limited to the lumbar spine.
- The spondylosis and obesity factors were previously onset factors only, but have now been added as worsening factors. The obesity factor applies to anterolisthesis only.
- The previously stipulated limited circumstances in which the inability to obtain appropriate clinical management factor could apply have been removed.

Suicide and attempted suicide**Amendment - 26 & 27 of '17**
Amends 65 and 66 of '16

- The previous 1A and 1B stressor factors required the stressors to be within 5 years for RH and 2 years for BOP. Those limits have been removed and the stressors can now have been any time before.
- There are also changes to the category 2 stressor factors. In the BOP SOP the previous requirement for the stressor to be within 2 years has been changed to 5 years (same as RH). In both SOPs the "problems with a long-term relationship" component of the category 2 stressor definition has been separated out into a new factor, which has a longer latency (within the 10 years before).

Contact for this bulletin:

Dr Jon Kelley

x470412