



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group

SOP Bulletin No. 196

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THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS TAKE EFFECT ON 22 MAY, 2017

New SOPs	Immersion pulmonary oedema
Revocations & Replacements	Thromboangiitis obliterans Bronchiectasis Cardiac myxoma
Amendments	Nil

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Immersion pulmonary oedema	New - 34 & 35 of '17
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- This new SOP covers a condition in which acute pulmonary oedema (fluid in the lungs) develops during immersion in water. It mostly affects endurance swimmers (e.g. triathletes, long distance military swimmers), or underwater or breath-hold divers, in open bodies of generally cold water. Some deaths from the condition

have been reported, but in most cases it resolves quickly without any ongoing consequences.

Thromboangiitis obliterans

Revocation - 28 & 29 of '17

Replaces 7 and 8 of '09

- There are changes to the RH SOP only, with a worsening factor added for smoking, and new factors (onset and worsening) included for passive smoking and using smokeless tobacco.

Bronchiectasis

Revocation - 30 & 31 of '17

Replaces 17 and 18 of '09

- The definition has been reworked, but with no change to SOP coverage.
- There are new RH and BOP, onset and worsening factors for: pertussis; connective tissue diseases; and inflammatory bowel disease.
- There are new RH only, onset and worsening factors for: occupational lung diseases; severe persistent asthma; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; haematological malignancy; immunosuppressive drugs; HIV infection; and HTLV-1 infection.
- For most onset factors with a time frame (e.g. within the 12 months before), that time frame has been extended.
- The organ transplant factor has been broadened.

Cardiac myxoma

Revocation - 32 & 33 of '17

Replaces 11 and 12 of '09

- The single causal factor has been changed from "having received a heart transplant from a donor with cardiac myxoma", to simply "having received a heart transplant" before onset.

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