



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

**Policy Development Branch**

# SOP Bulletin No. 234

10 January 2023

**THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS TAKE EFFECT ON 23 JANUARY 2023**

<b>New conditions</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Revocations &amp; Replacements</b>	<b>atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter malignant neoplasm of the prostate epicondylitis</b>
<b>Amendments</b>	<b>Nil</b>

## **NOTEWORTHY FEATURES**

<b>atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter</b>	<b>Revocation – 1 &amp; 2 of 2023</b> Replaces 49 & 50 of 2014
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- The definition has been revised and reformatted, but there is no change to SOP coverage.
- The previous myocarditis factor has been reorganised into three factors for: non-infectious myocarditis; viral myocarditis; and non-viral infectious myocarditis.

- Previously RH only factors have been added to the BOP SOP for: tobacco smoking; binge drinking; chronic renal failure; obstructive sleep apnoea; specified autoimmune or inflammatory diseases; and being overweight (added to the being obese factor).
- There are new RH only factors for: hypothyroidism (added to the thyroid diseases list); SARS-CoV-2 infection (Covid-19); influenza; haemochromatosis (in a reorganised infiltrative diseases factor); second-hand tobacco smoke; NSAIDs; bisphosphonates; and air pollution.
- There are new RH and BOP factors for: pulmonary thromboembolism; asthma; inability to undertake low level physical activity; malignant disease; therapeutic radiation for cancer; chemotherapy for cancer; corticosteroids; and specified cardiac drugs.
- A previous factor for blunt cardiac injury has been removed from the BOP SOP and is now RH only.

### **malignant neoplasm of the prostate**

**Revocation – 3 & 4 of 2023**

Replaces 53 & 54 of 2014 as amended

- The definition has been amended.
  - It now covers only tumours arising from epithelial cells. This excludes very rare non-epithelial cancers that were previously covered (nephroblastoma, germ cell tumours, cystadenoma, rhabdoid tumour, paraganglionoma, neuroblastoma).
  - It now includes high grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia (which was previously excluded). Low grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia remains excluded.
  - The previous exclusion for carcinoid tumours has been replaced by an exclusion for primary neuroendocrine tumours (a carcinoid tumour is a type of neuroendocrine tumour). This wording means that an adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine features or that shows or develops neuroendocrine differentiation (which can occur with anti-androgen therapy) is covered by the SOP.
- The previous RH only factor for increased animal fat consumption has been replaced by a new factor for consuming (a specified minimum level of) dairy products.
- The previous RH only onset factor for alcohol consumption has been removed. An RH only worsening factor for alcohol consumption remains.
- A new RH and BOP onset only factor has been added for arsenic exposure (as specified).
- There are new RH only onset only factors for: hexavalent chromium exposure (as specified); ionising radiation exposure; and periodontitis.
- There are new RH only worsening factors for: use of smokeless tobacco; and having diabetes mellitus.

- Previously RH only worsening factors have been added to the BOP SOP for tobacco smoking and being obese.

**epicondylitis**

**Revocation – 5 & 6 of 2023**

Replaces 7 & 8 of 2015

- The definition has been reformatted to the current style with some added information in notes about clinical presentation and other names for the condition.
- The forceful plus repetitive or sustained activities factor that was in the RH SOP has been extended to the BOP SOP (replacing a factor that covered forceful and sustained (but not repetitive) activities. This factor also has a new note giving some detail on relevant activities.
- There are new RH and BOP onset and worsening factors for: using a hand-held computer mouse (as specified); and having spondyloarthritis (as defined).

**Contact for this bulletin:**

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