



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Eligibility and Payments Policy Branch

SOP Bulletin No. 211

4 November 2019

THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPS TAKE EFFECT ON 18 NOVEMBER, 2019

New SOPs	Nil
Revocations & Replacements	Microscopic polyangiitis Malignant neoplasm of the renal pelvis and ureter Ross River virus infection Acoustic neuroma Sensorineural hearing loss Subdural haematoma
Amendments	Cervical spondylosis

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Microscopic polyangiitis	Revocation – 90 & 91 of 2019 Replaces 13 & 14 of 2011
---------------------------------	---

- The definition has some new exclusions for other types of vasculitis that are similar but have different pathology.
- There is a new factor for silicosis (RH & BOP, onset and worsening).

- The drugs factor has been expanded to cover some further drugs used to treat thyroid disease.

Malignant neoplasm of the renal pelvis and ureter	Revocation – 92 & 93 of 2019 Replaces 98 & 99 of 2011 as amended
--	---

- There are numerous changes (rewording of factors, changes in dose or latency, and addition of new factors) that have been made to more closely align this SOP with the recently updated SOP for MN of the bladder.
- There are new RH & BOP factors for exposure to tetrachloroethylene and treatment with chlornaphazine.
- There are new RH only factors for: hairdressers/barbers; diesel engine exhaust; pioglitazone (treatment with); diabetes mellitus; Schistosoma haematobium infection; having an indwelling ureteric stent; neurogenic bladder; chronic urinary tract infection; and lead exposure as specified.
- The previously RH only factor for painters has been extended to the BOP SOP.

Ross River virus infection	Revocation – 94 & 95 of 2019 Replaces 90 & 91 of 2010
-----------------------------------	---

- The previous factor for a bite from an infected mosquito has been rolled into a “being exposed” factor, which now also includes receiving infected: blood; blood products; or a transplant.
- The factor for being in an area where transmission has occurred has been updated, with additional areas in the South Pacific now included.

Acoustic neuroma	Revocation – 96 & 97 of 2019 Replaces 29 & 30 of 2011 as amended
-------------------------	---

- There are wording changes to the definition. There are no material changes to the SOP coverage or factors.

Sensorineural hearing loss**Revocation – 98 & 99 of 2019**

Replaces 5 & 6 of 2011

- The definition now excludes hearing loss due to Meniere's disease.
- There are no material changes to the noise exposure factors (there are minor wording changes to the definitions of dB(C) and dB(A)).
- There are new RH and BOP factors for: an explosive blast; lightning strike; viral labyrinthitis; and cerebrovascular accident.
- There are new RH only factors for; moderate to severe traumatic brain injury; obesity; hypertension; second hand smoke exposure; and cobalt (hip prosthesis or serum level).
- There have been changes to the lists of drugs covered by the drug treatment factors (additions and removals).
- There are additions to the list of viruses covered by the acute viral infection factor and the list of autoimmune diseases covered by the autoimmune diseases factor.
- There are now composite factors (with new additions) covering bacterial infections, bone diseases; haematological diseases; and chemical agents.
- Encephalitis has been added to the previous meningitis factor.
- The smoking dose has been lowered.
- Factors have been removed for: diphtheria (was RH only); and Meniere's disease (was RH and BOP). The BOP factor for having the measles-mumps vaccine has also been removed (but retained in the RH SOP).

Subdural haematoma**Revocation – 100 & 101 of 2019**Replaces 33 & 34 of 2011
as amended

- There are new RH and BOP factors for: intracranial neurosurgery or penetrating intracranial trauma; and, having a cerebrospinal fluid shunt.

- There is a new RH only factor for diabetes mellitus.
- Factors have been removed for Paget's disease, ankylosing spondylitis and acute changes in cranial or spinal pressure.

Cervical spondylosis

Amendment – 102 of 2019

Amends 66 of 2014

- The amendment, to the RH SOP only, adds new onset and worsening factors for carrying a large bulky load of at least 15 kilograms positioned between the neck and shoulder (for 5000 hrs within a 10 years period).

Contact for this bulletin:

Dr Jon Kelley

X470412