



TRAINING & INFORMATION PROGRAM [TIP]

TIP National Information Service

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TIP INFORMATION SERVICE [TIS]

F111 DESEAL / RESEAL PROGRAM

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One of the ways the Training & Information Program [TIP] can improve it's support to compensation and welfare practitioners, that was highlighted in the Review-of BEST and TIP, is to extend the circulation of information as and when there arises an opportunity.

At the Half-year meeting of the Committee of TIP Chairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs, TIP National was tasked to put in place a form of circulating such information. The first of a number of "TIP Information Service" [TIS] documents is now available.

The aim of the TIP Information Service [TIS] flyers is to highlight items that practitioners must address to ensure that the person being supported gets the benefit of the information. These flyers are to be considered as a 'signpost' for practitioners when investigating claims or welfare support and are not definitive papers.

SUBJECT

The F111 Deseal/Reseal program [in respect to certain members of the RAAF] was put in place to allow for a follow-up of anomalies in the treatment of certain, identifiable conditions, which has led to a process for the acceptance of those conditions and legislation that supports the availability of compensation outcomes

We remind practitioners that welfare issues may arise from compensation outcomes

Introduction

1. There is a compensation process available through the Safety, Rehabilitation & Compensation Act that has been instituted arising from a study of the issues.
2. It is understood that approximately 3000 personnel were involved in various capacities in the F111 Deseal/Reseal Program from 1973 to 2000 and to date only about 1200 have been located.
3. To allow practitioners to understand the issues and assist potential beneficiaries the Department of Veterans Affairs refers practitioners [and members/ex-members of the RAAF] to F111.dva.gov.au
4. There are links on that site, to the Department of the Attorney General, to statutory declarations that are purpose built to assist applicants in submitting relevant information on their participation in this program, as well as declarations from co-workers that confirm the applicant's involvement.

Level of exposure

5. A three [3] tier classification process has been developed to reflect the level of **exposure** of participants to the F111 Deseal/Reseal program. Tier one relates to the highest level of exposure

Legislation

6. The F111 Deseal/Reseal program provides for compensation under the Safety, Rehabilitation & Compensation Act [SRCA]. There are a number of benefits gained under the Tier system of classification.

Automatic acceptance

7. All applicants who are classified into a tier have automatic acceptance of 31 specified conditions [with confirmed diagnosis] under the SRCA. Section 7.2 has been invoked providing classified applicants with the benefit of the reverse standard of proof similar to a Reasonable Hypothesis under the Veterans Entitlement Act [VEA]

Administration

8. Following the inquiry into this program one of the research bodies, 'Study of health outcomes for aircraft maintenance personnel' [SHOAMP] was tasked with the administration of the treatment program for those for whom liability has been accepted. This body resides in DVA Brisbane and all treatment is outsourced.

Documentation

9. An application on form D9021 [Application for Tier Classification by the estate of an F-111 Deseal/Reseal program participant or F-111] are available on the DVA site [Forms] and must be lodged with:-

F-111 Tier Classification Team
PO Box 9998
Brisbane, Qld. 4000

Benefits

10. Benefits are described on form D9021 for tiers 1 and 2, Lump sums, treatment etc. The estate of an eligible deceased person may be entitled to compensation or a lump sum ex-gratia payment.
11. Families of applicants whose liability has been accepted under SRCA are eligible for treatment by VVCS for a defined range of conditions and have access to Lifestyle Management Courses

Civilian employees

12. A number of civilian employees, in the main by Hawker de Havilland were involved in the program. Any illness or injury is to be addressed to WorkCover Queensland.

Conclusion

13. It is feared that due to a range of cognitive and psychiatric problems a number of potential beneficiaries have not come forward and your assistance in publicising this subject would be providing a service to the wider ex-service /Service community

AUTOMATIC E-MAIL LISTING

Authorised Practitioners and Ex-Service Organisations wishing to be listed on an automatic distribution list held by TIP and designed for automatic receipt of TIS material should register through

vetcensalejp@netspace.net.au