

William Sim

27<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Compensation and Rehabilitation for Veterans

Productivity Commission

GPO Box 1428 Canberra City ACT 2604

Dear Sir

Sorry for the late submission but I have just heard about the submissions. I hope you can use this and if you need any clarifications or have any openings at the public hearings please don't hesitate to contact me.

I have included my submission for the Senate enquiry to veterans Suicide as most of it relevant to this.

Since I have submitted to the senate enquiry another issue has arrived. My specialist has said my condition stabilised and is permanent. So, I put in a claim for permanent impairment for the inflammatory arthritis. With the intention that once this is finalised I can start the process for getting the sub sequential injuries to be accepted. I have got Osteo Arthritis forming in a lot of the my joints due to the problems with the inflammations. I also have attacks of tendonitis in many tendons, as this is not an accepted condition it costs over \$300 a time when I must go in and get ultrasounds and quarterzone injections in the tendon sheaves. Both these conditions are known side effects from the accepted conditions but are not yet accepted conditions.

I was rejected for permanent impairment because they used Dr report and disregarded Dr report which was used in getting my Incapacity payments accepted. So back to another appeal more delays and frustrations. I don't start anything with DVA unless I am in a good headspace as I know I won't be at the end and if in a bad way before starting it is a very dark place by the end.

If you look at the ACTS I fall under the complexity will be apparent. Because of my time I served, I fall under two acts VEA and SCRA (which I believe may now is DRCA). Then under both ACTS there is coverage for medical expenses (which is automatically covered when condition is accepted), Incapacity and Permanent Impairment which both need separate claims. A way to stream line these claims processes is to have one ACT for all present and former defence force members, the year you joined shouldn't have be the deciding factor on how you are looked after by DVA. And with the Incapacity payments and Permanent Impairment have them as automatically accepted at the time of accepting condition using the Doctors reports that were used to determine the accepting of the condition. If any more information is required make another appointment for the same doctor as opposed to go to multiple IMA's.

Thank you again for the opportunity to allow submissions

William (Bill) Sim