

TRICARE FOR LIFE

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AUTHORITY: 10 USC 1086(d)

I. DESCRIPTION

Pursuant to Section 712 of the **Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)**, Medicare eligible beneficiaries based on age, whose TRICARE eligibility is determined by 10 **United States Code (USC) Section 1086**, are eligible for Medicare Part A, and are enrolled in Medicare Part B, are eligible for the TRICARE benefit effective October 1, 2001. **Beneficiaries under age 65 who are also Medicare eligible, are also eligible for TRICARE For Life (TFL) (see the TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM), Chapter 22, Section 1, paragraphs 2.3. and 2.4.).**

II. POLICY

A. Introduction:

Section 712 extends TRICARE eligibility to persons who would otherwise have lost their TRICARE eligibility due to attainment of entitlement to hospital insurance benefits under Part A of Medicare based on age. In order for these individuals to retain their TRICARE eligibility, they must be enrolled in the supplementary medical insurance program under Part B of Medicare. In general, in the case of medical or dental care provided to these individuals for which payment may be made under both Medicare and TRICARE, Medicare is the primary payer and TRICARE will normally pay the actual out-of-pocket costs incurred by the person.

B. Eligibility.

The contractors shall determine from the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) if the individual is eligible for the TRICARE benefit.

C. **Under certain conditions TFL beneficiaries may enroll in TRICARE Prime (see the TOM, Chapter 6, Section 1, paragraph 8.4. through 8.4.2.).**

D. Claims will be reimbursed with the applicable reimbursement sections of the TRICARE Policy, Reimbursement, and Operations manuals.

E. Appeal rights are covered in the **TOM, Chapter 13.**

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F. The contractor shall educate beneficiaries about this benefit as identified by the government.

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