

## Chapter 3

## Section 4.2

# Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) Functionality

Revision: C-17, August 7, 2018

---

### **1.0 APPLICATION**

**1.1** This section provides functional guidance for all contractors that interface with the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)/DEERS in support of their contractual requirements.

**1.2** For the purpose of defining geographical areas, the 50 United States (U.S.) and the District of Columbia are hereafter referred to as the Continental United States (CONUS), and all other areas are considered Outside of the Continental United States (OCONUS).

**1.3** The TRICARE Program's contracts provide support for specific health care service categories. Each major area of this section will be broken into health care service categories for specific guidance. Some of the contracted health care service categories are:

- Pharmacy: TPharm (Mail Order Pharmacy (MOP) and Retail Pharmacy).
- Dental: TRICARE Dental Program (TDP), TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP), Active Duty Dental Program (ADDP), and Remote Active Duty Dental Program (RADDP).
- Medical: CONUS regional contracts, OCONUS contract, Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP) contracts.
- Nurse Advice Lines (NALs): CONUS and OCONUS NALs.
- Medicare Eligible Claims Processor: TRICARE Dual Eligible Fiscal Intermediary Contract (TDEFIC): CONUS, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Other Health Insurance (OHI).

**1.4** Some key executable business processes that all contractors must accomplish are listed below.

**1.4.1** For all contractors and contracts:

- Beneficiary identification/authentication;

- DoD entitlements/TRICARE benefits information (see also TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM) and TRICARE Policy Manual (TPM)); and
- Identification of Other Government Programs (OGPs) entitlement information, to include Medicare.

**1.4.2** When required by specific contract requirements:

- Enrollment processing;
- Enrollment premiums/fees maintenance (includes fee exclusion);
- Primary Care Manager (PCM) assignment/re-assignment;
- Claims processing (with associated beneficiary contact updates);
- Catastrophic Cap And Deductible Data (CCDD);
- OHI Program; and
- Standard Insurance Table (SIT) Program.

**2.0 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Contractors shall understand and execute the DEERS functionality described in this section. Contractors shall also utilize the technical information and materials provided by DMDC/DEERS via Defense Health Agency (DHA) Performance, Analysis, Transition, and Integration Section (PAT&IS), and then must consult with DEERS and DHA if clarification is required.

**3.0 DEERS OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND CHARACTERISTICS**

The DEERS system environment consists of a Relational Database Management System (RDBMS), rules-based applications processing DoD entitlements and eligibility, a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) sockets listener, application servers that enforce business rules, and web servers.

**3.1 Data Sequencing**

Since DEERS is tasked with resolving data conflicts from external systems using rules-based applications, all contractors shall ensure proper data sequencing of transactions sent to DEERS, when applicable to the specific interface involved. This aids in maintaining data validity and integrity.

**3.2 System Maintenance And Downtime**

**3.2.1** DMDC has routinely scheduled times for system maintenance and will schedule additional downtimes as required. The routinely scheduled downtimes are:

- Weekly: 2100 Eastern Saturday to 0600 Eastern Sunday
- Daily, if needed: 2355 Eastern to 0100 Eastern

**3.2.2** When DMDC identifies a telecommunications, hardware, or software problem outside a scheduled maintenance window that results in downtime of contractors interface for two contiguous or cumulative hours within a business day, DMDC must notify the DHA of the problem and approximately when it is expected to be corrected. DHA contractors reliant upon DEERS will be notified of the situation and provided guidance as appropriate.

**3.2.3** In addition to the standard problem resolution procedures as referenced in DMDC documentation, when contractors experience downtime in the DEERS interface for two hours contiguously or cumulatively within a business day and has not been contacted by DHA, contractors must report the downtime to the DHA representative and shall report an updated status every two hours until the problem is resolved. A final report upon resolution is also required.

**3.3** DEERS provides system-to-system interfaces, applications, web-based applications, and web-based services.

### **3.3.1 External Systems - System-To-System Interfaces**

All system-to-system interfaces to DEERS must use TCP/IP, File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Hypertext Transfer (Transport) Protocol (HTTP), Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP), or Hypertext Transfer (Transport) Protocol Secure (HTTPS) as specified by DEERS.

**3.3.1.1** DEERS utilizes standard message protocols where appropriate.

**3.3.1.2** DEERS defines the content and format of messages between DEERS and contractors.

**3.3.1.3** DEERS and all contractors must utilize encryption for all messages that contain privacy level information.

**3.3.1.4** DEERS specifies the method of encryption and authentication for all external interfaces.

**3.3.1.5** All notifications are sent as full database images; they are not transaction-based. Contractors must accept and apply the full image sent by DEERS. Contractors shall add the information, if not present in their system. Contractors shall update their system, if the information is present, by replacing their information with what is newly received from DEERS. Notifications are only intended to synchronize the most current information between DEERS and contractors. They do not synchronize history between DEERS and contractors.

**3.3.1.6** DMDC centrally enforces all business rules for enrollment and enrollment-related events.

**3.3.1.7** DEERS is the database of record for all eligibility, enrollment information, and Catastrophic Cap & Deductible (CC&D) information.

**3.3.1.8** DEERS is the central repository for OHI information.

### **3.3.2 Web-Based Application Requirements And Functionality**

**3.3.2.1** All DMDC/DEERS web-based applications require Microsoft® Internet Explorer (MIE) 6.0 or higher using HTTPS. They are all Government furnished equipment.

**3.3.2.2** Contractors shall use the Government furnished web-based applications for their intended use only. Contractors shall not utilize screen scraping, HTML stripping, and any other technology or approach to manipulate or alter the intended use of the application or the application architecture.

**3.3.2.3** At a minimum, the following functions are available using Government furnished web-based applications, responsibilities and functions based on contractual requirements:

- General Inquiry of DEERS (GIQD) information used for research and customer service to display demographics, Health Care Delivery Program (HCDP) eligibility and enrollment. It may also allow other administrative functions like address updates.
- Enrollment activities, to include display of enrollment premiums/fees.
- Claims processing eligibility checks, see also [Sections 5.1](#) and [5.2](#).
- CCDD information that supports research and allows limited updates on the history of CC&Ds and enrollment fee payment transactions posted to DEERS and stored on-line (current plus previous five fiscal years).
- OHI information that allows add, update, and cancellation of OHI policies as well as SIT carrier adds, updates, cancellations and deactivations.
- PCM assignment, re-assignment, capacities, and enrolled counts.

#### **4.0 DEERS WEB-BASED APPLICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS**

Applications: The following is a brief description of the available applications, responsibilities and functions based on contractual requirements.

##### **4.1 GIQD Information**

GIQD information is achieved through a Government furnished web-based system/application that is used for research and customer service to display demographics, coverage and PCM assignment information. It also allows address updates.

##### **4.2 Government Furnished Web-Based Enrollment System/Application**

**4.2.1** The Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application is a full function Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) application developed by DMDC to support enrollment-related activity. The Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application interacts with both the main DEERS database and the National Enrollment Database (NED) satellite database to provide enrolling organizations with eligibility and enrollment information, as well as the capability to update the NED with new enrollments and modifications to existing enrollments.

**4.2.2** The Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application meets the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and DoD policy guidelines for a direct data entry application, and is data-content compliant for enrollment and disenrollment functions.

**4.2.3** Contractors are required to perform enrollment related functions through the Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application.

##### **4.3 Government Furnished Web-Based Beneficiary Self-service Enrollment System/Application**

**4.3.1** The Government furnished web-based beneficiary self-service enrollment system/application serves all TRICARE eligible beneficiaries and will support most enrollment programs. The

Government furnished web-based beneficiary self-service enrollment system/application will interface with contractor systems for the purposes of accommodating on-line payment of initial enrollment fees.

**4.3.2** DEERS will pre-populate data elements where possible.

**4.3.3** The web application contains checks for beneficiary eligibility and hard edits requiring the beneficiary to fulfill established DEERS business rules and enrollment criteria. Upon completion of the web process, the beneficiary is informed that the enrollment actions may be reviewed by the appropriate contractor for accuracy and compliance with established regional and/or Military Treatment Facility (MTF)/Enhanced Multi-Service Market (eMSM) requirements, and that they will be contacted if additional information is needed. DEERS will send the contractor a notification(s) informing the contractor that either a pending enrollment (for programs with PCM requirements) or a new enrollment exists for the beneficiary. See also [paragraph 5.0](#).

## **5.0 DEERS SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM NOTIFICATIONS**

**5.1** Government furnished system information/data notification(s) are sent to contractors for various reasons and reflect the most current enrollment information for a beneficiary. Contractors must accept, apply, and store the data contained in the notification as sent from DEERS to remain in sync with DEERS. Notifications may be sent due to new enrollments or updates to existing enrollments. If contractors do not have the information contained in the notification, contractors shall add it to their system. If contractors already have enrollment information for the beneficiary, contractors shall apply all information contained in the notification to their system.

**5.2** Contractors shall use the beneficiaries' DEERS identifiers, DoD Identification Number and/or DoD Benefits Number (DBN), to match the notification to the correct beneficiary in their system. There are also circumstances where a contractor may receive a notification that does not appear to be updating the information that the contractor already has for the enrollee. Such notifications shall not be treated as errors by the contractor system and must be applied.

**5.3** Contractors are expected to acknowledge all notifications sent by DEERS. If DEERS does not receive an acknowledgment, the notification will continue to be sent until acknowledgment is received. The following information details examples of events that trigger DEERS to send notifications to a contractor.

- Primary Notifications Resulting From Enrollment Actions.
- Unsolicited Notifications resulting from updates to beneficiaries' status.

## **6.0 BENEFICIARY IDENTIFICATION**

### **6.1 Patient Identification Merge**

**6.1.1** See also [Section 3.1](#) for Beneficiary Identification.

**6.1.2** Occasionally, incomplete or inaccurate person data is provided to DEERS and a single person may be temporarily assigned two DoD Identification Numbers. When DEERS identifies this condition, DEERS makes this information available on-line for all contractors. Contractors are responsible for retrieving and applying this information on a weekly basis. The merge brings the data gathered under only one of the DoD Identification Numbers and discards the other. Although DEERS

retains both numbers for an indefinite period, from that point on only the one remaining DoD Identification Number shall be used by the contractor for that person and for subsequent interaction with DEERS and other Military Health Systems (MHSs). If there are enrollments under both records being merged that overlap, the enrolling organizations are responsible for correcting the enrollments. Contractors shall also update the catastrophic cap that has been posted for these records if necessary.

## **6.2 Partial Match**

**6.2.1** See also [Section 3.1](#) for Beneficiary Identification.

**6.2.2** A partial match response may be returned for any inquiry that does not use a DoD Identification Number and/or DBN. Eligibility may result in a partial match situation due to person ambiguity. There will be a separate listing for each person or family matching the requested DBN, or Sponsor Social Security Number (SSN).

**6.2.3** The listing includes the sponsor and family member information needed to determine the correct beneficiary or family including the DBN(s).

**6.2.4** The requesting organization must select which of the multiple listings is correct based on documents or information at hand. After this selection, the requesting organization would use the additional information returned (e.g., Date Of Birth (DOB), Name) to resend a DEERS inquiry.

## **7.0 HCDP ELIGIBILITY FOR ENROLLMENT**

**7.1** The rules for determining a beneficiary's entitlement to health care benefits are applied by rules-based software within DEERS. DEERS is the sole repository for these DoD rules, and no other eligibility determination outside of DEERS is considered valid. Whenever data about an individual sponsor or a family member changes, DEERS reapplies these rules. DEERS receives daily, weekly, and monthly updates to this data, which is why organizations must query DEERS for eligibility information before taking action. This ensures that the individual is still eligible to use the benefits and that the respective contractor has the most current information.

**7.2** A beneficiary who is considered eligible for DoD benefits (pharmacy, dental, medical) in accordance with Title 10 United States Code (USC), [32 CFR 199.13](#), [32 CFR 199.22](#), and DoD Instruction (DoDI) 1000.13 is not required to "sign up" for the TRICARE benefits associated with any DEERS assigned plan. If an authorized organization inquires about that beneficiary's eligibility, DEERS reflects if he or she is eligible to use the benefits. The effective and expiration dates for assigned plan coverage are derived from DoDI 1000.13 rules and supporting information.

## **7.3 Eligibility For Enrollment**

DEERS provides coverage plan information identifying the period of eligibility and/or enrollment for the coverage plan. A beneficiary can only be enrolled into the coverage plans that have an "eligible for" status. When a sponsor and/or family member are first added, or when sponsor or member status updates occurs, DEERS determines basic eligibility for health care benefits in accordance with Title 10 USC, [32 CFR 199.13](#), [32 CFR 199.22](#), and DoDI 1000.13 and then establishes an assigned HCDP coverage plan together with coverage dates.

## **8.0 ENROLLMENT ACTIVITIES**

Enrollment-related business events include, by contracted health care service category:

### **8.1 Pharmacy: Enrollment Functionality**

No enrollment requirement, as pharmacy is an assigned HCDP plan.

### **8.2 Dental: Enrollment Functionality**

**8.2.1** Eligibility for enrollment identifies current enrolled coverage plans and eligibility for enrollment into other coverage plans (as the sponsor and/or beneficiaries role changes over time). See also [Section 4.1](#). Some examples of plan changes over time:

- Service member plans. ADDP, but can move into other dental plans based on their beneficiary role change (e.g., TDP and TRDP)
- Active Duty Family Member (ADFM) plans. TDP, but can move into other dental plans based on their beneficiary role change (e.g., TRDP and ADDP, if ADFM becomes an active Service Member)
- Retirees. TRDP with no expected change in plan.
- Retiree dependents. TRDP, but can move into other dental plans based on their beneficiary role change (e.g., TDP and ADDP, if retiree dependent becomes an active Service Member)

- **The TRDP contractor shall cease new enrollment actions on October 31, 2018.**

**8.2.2** New enrollments are used for enrolling eligible sponsors and family members into a HCDP coverage plans or for adding family members to an existing family policy. Enrollments begin on the date specified by the enrolling organization and extend through the beneficiaries' end of eligibility for the HCDP.

**8.2.3** New enrollments may also perform the following functions:

- Update address, e-mail address and/or telephone number.
- Record that the enrollee has OHI (does not apply to ADDP).

**8.2.4** Modifications of the current enrollment (updates) are used to change some information in the current enrollment plan. Modifications of the current enrollment include the following functions:

- Change enrollment begin date.
- Cancel enrollment/disenrollment.
- Change prior enrollment end date.
- Change prior enrollment end reason.
- Request an enrollment card replacement.
- Add OHI information for an enrollee (does not apply to ADDP).



### **8.3 Medical: Enrollment Functionality**

**8.3.1** Eligibility for enrollment identifies current enrolled coverage plans and eligibility for enrollment into other coverage plans (as the sponsor and/or beneficiaries role changes over time). See also [Section 4.1](#). Some examples of plan changes over time:

- Service member plans. TRICARE Prime for Service member only, but can move into other medical plans based on their beneficiary role change (e.g., TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR), TRICARE Standard, TRICARE Select, TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS), etc.).
- ADFM plans. Starting January 1, 2018, beneficiaries must select a plan or will default to direct-care only. However, Calendar Year (CY) 2018 is a grace period where they can elect a plan at any point. Beginning with CY 2019, beneficiaries will be limited to making changes to enrollments only during an annual enrollment open season or following a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). Direct Care (DC) only is the default assigned, but can enroll into other medical plans based on their beneficiary role change (e.g., TRICARE Select, TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Plus, TPRADFM, etc.). See TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1](#).
- Retirees and their family members. Starting January 1, 2018, beneficiaries must select a plan or will default to DC only. However, CY 2018 is a grace period where they can elect a plan at any point. Beginning with CY 2019, beneficiaries will be limited to making changes to enrollments only during an annual enrollment open season or following a QLE. DC only is the default assigned, but can elect to enroll into other medical plans (e.g., TRICARE Select, TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Plus, etc.). See TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1](#).

**8.3.2** New enrollments are used for enrolling eligible sponsors and family members into a HCDP coverage plans or for adding family members to an existing family policy. Enrollments begin on the date specified by the enrolling organization and extend through the beneficiaries' end of eligibility for the HCDP.

**8.3.3** New enrollments may also perform the following functions:

- Update address, e-mail address and/or telephone number.
- PCM selection (if required/allowed by HCDP).
- Record that the enrollee has OHI.

**8.3.4** Modifications of the current enrollment (updates) are used to change some information in the current enrollment plan. Modifications of the current enrollment include the following functions:

- Change or cancel a PCM selection.
- Transfer enrollment (enrollment portability) or cancel a transfer.
- Change enrollment begin date.
- Cancel enrollment/disenrollment.
- Change prior enrollment end date.
- Change prior enrollment end reason.
- Request an enrollment card replacement.
- Add OHI information for an enrollee.



- Request a replacement letter for PCM change or disenrollment.

#### **8.4 NAL: Enrollment Functionality**

No enrollment requirement, as NAL is a service program that supports all DoD eligible beneficiaries.

#### **8.5 TDEFIC: Enrollment Functionality**

No enrollment requirement, as TDEFIC is a claims processing contract that supports all dual eligible beneficiaries.

### **9.0 DISENROLLMENTS ACTIVITIES**

**9.1** Once actively enrolled in a coverage plan, an individual or family may voluntarily disenroll or be involuntarily disenrolled. Voluntary disenrollment is self-elected, but does not apply to Service Member as they are not authorized to voluntarily disenroll from mandated medical or dental plans. Involuntary disenrollment occurs from failure to pay enrollment fees or from loss of eligibility. Upon disenrollment, DEERS will notify the beneficiary of the change in or loss of coverage.

**9.2** For medical plans only, see TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1](#) for disenrollment rules and eligibility for re-enrollment.

**9.3** When there is a disenrollment, the appropriate systems are notified, as necessary (see also [paragraph 4.2](#)).

**9.4** Effective December 31, 2018, 11:59 p.m. Eastern, all TRDP enrollments shall terminate, in accordance with this chapter.

### **10.0 BENEFICIARY CONTACT UPDATES AND ENROLLMENT CARDS**

#### **10.1 Contact Updates (Applicable To All Contractors)**

Address, telephone number, and e-mail address updates.

##### **10.1.1 Addresses**

**10.1.1.1** DEERS receives address information from a number of source systems. Although most systems only update the residence address, DEERS actually maintains multiple addresses for each person. Contractors shall update the residential and mailing addresses in DEERS, whenever possible. These addresses shall not reflect unit, MTF/eMSM, or contractors addresses unless provided directly by the beneficiary. The mailing address captured on DEERS is primarily used to mail the enrollment card and other correspondence. The residential address is used to determine enrollment jurisdiction at the Zip Code level. DEERS uses a commercial product to validate address information received on-line and from batch sources.

**10.1.1.2** Contractors are responsible for processing all mail returned for bad addresses and shall research the address, correct it on DEERS, and re-mail the correspondence to the beneficiary. If

contractors cannot determine a valid address, contractors shall update the Mail Delivery Quality Code (MDQC) in DEERS to prevent future mailings to that address.

### **10.1.2 Telephone Numbers**

DEERS has several types of telephone numbers for a person (e.g., home, work, and cellular). Contractors shall make reasonable efforts to add or update telephone numbers.

### **10.1.3 E-Mail Addresses**

DEERS can store an e-mail address for each person. Contractors shall make reasonable efforts to add or update this e-mail address.

## **10.2 Enrollment Cards And Letter Production**

**10.2.1** DEERS sends a notification directly to the enrollee at the residential mailing address specified in the enrollment request or via e-mail advising them how to obtain a copy of their Universal TRICARE Beneficiary Card. New enrollment cards are automatically generated upon a new enrollment or an enrollment transfer to a new region (medical only). Beneficiaries are notified of the availability by e-mail or postcard, unless the enrollment operator specifies in the Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application not to generate an enrollment card. A contractor may request a replacement notification at any time. DEERS sends a notification to the contractor indicating the last date an enrollment card notification was generated for the enrollee.

**10.2.2** DEERS also generates letters to beneficiaries upon changes to their enrollment, and notifies beneficiary via e-mail or postcard that the letter is available. Contractors shall not send additional letters that duplicate those already provided by DEERS.

## **11.0 CLAIMS PROCESSING AND DATABASE OF RECORD**

**11.1** DEERS is the system of record for eligibility and enrollment information. As such, in the process of claims adjudication, contractors shall query DEERS to determine eligibility and/or enrollment status for a given period of time.

**11.2** For audit and performance review purposes, contractors are required to retain a copy of every transaction and response sent and received for claims adjudication procedures. This information is to be retained for the period required by the TOM.

**11.3** Contractors shall not override this data with information from other sources. Continued Health Care Benefits Program (CHCBP) CC&D information shall be obtained from the CHCBP contractor.

**11.4** Contractors shall deny a claim (either totally or partially) if the services were received partially or entirely outside any period of eligibility.

**11.5** The contractor system is the database of record for OHI within the TRICARE Program. DEERS is the data repository for OHI, using its centralized repository of OHI information that is reliant on the MHS organizations to verify, update and add to at every opportunity. The OHI data received as part of the claims inquiry shall be used as part of the claims adjudication process. If the contractor has evidence of additional or more current OHI information they shall either 'pend' the claim, submit the new OHI

information to DEERS, and then reprocess the claim, or develop business processes to simultaneously accomplish both DEERS OHI update and claims processing using the newly discovered OHI data. Any process executed by the contractors must not interfere with the contractors required claims processing time lines.

**11.6** Although DEERS is not the database of record for address, it is a centralized repository that is reliant on numerous organizations to verify, update and add to at every opportunity. The address data received as part of the claims inquiry shall be used as part of the claims adjudication process. If the contractor has evidence of additional or more current address information they shall process claims using the additional or more current information and update DEERS within two business days.

## **12.0 CCDD**

**12.1** DEERS stores Enrollment Year (EY), Fiscal Year (FY), and CY CC&D data in a central repository. DEERS stores the current and the four prior yearly CC&D totals. The purpose of the DEERS CCDD repository is to maintain and provide accurate CC&D amounts, making them universally accessible to DoD claims processors.

**Note:** To transition to CY catastrophic caps as required in NDAA FY 2017, Section 701, the FY 2017 catastrophic cap covers the period from October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017.

**12.2** The CCDD Totals Inquiry is used to obtain CCDD balances for the year(s) that correspond to the requested inquiry period. Contractors must inquire and lock CCDD totals before updating DEERS CCDD amounts.

**Note:** A catastrophic cap record is not required for persons who are authorized benefits but are not on DEERS or eligible for medical benefits, such as prisoners or Government employees. The purpose of the catastrophic cap is to benefit those beneficiaries who are eligible for MHS benefits. Those persons that are authorized benefits who would not under any other circumstances be eligible, are not subject to catastrophic cap requirements.

## **13.0 OHI PROGRAM**

**13.1** OHI identifies non-DoD health insurance held by a beneficiary. The requirements for OHI are validated by the DHA Uniform Business Office (UBO). OHI information includes:

- OHI policy and carrier.
- Policyholder.
- Type of coverage provided by the additional insurance policy.
- Employer information offering coverage, if applicable.
- Effective period of the policy.

**13.2** OHI transactions allow adding, updating, canceling, or viewing all OHI policy information. OHI policy updates can accompany enrollments or be performed alone. OHI information can be added to DEERS or updated on DEERS through multiple mechanisms. At the time of enrollment the contractor will determine the existence of OHI. Contractors can add or update minimal OHI data through the Government furnished web-based enrollment system/application used by the contractors to enter enrollments into DEERS. In addition, DEERS will accept OHI updates from a claims processor through a

system-to-system interface. Other MHS can add or update the OHI through the OHI/SIT web application provided by DEERS.

**13.3** The contractor will perform an OHI Inquiry before attempting to add or update an OHI policy. The MHS organizations are reliant on the individual beneficiary to provide accurate OHI information and DEERS is reliant on the MHS organizations for the accurate assignment of policy information to the individual record. DEERS is not the system of record for OHI information. Performing an OHI Inquiry on a person before adding or attempting to update an OHI policy helps ensure that the proper policy is updated based on the most current information or the person.

**13.4** Examples of OHI coverage are:

- Comprehensive Medical coverage (Plans with multiple coverage types).
- Medical coverage.
- Inpatient coverage.
- Outpatient coverage.
- Pharmacy coverage.
- Dental coverage.
- Long-term care coverage.
- Mental health coverage.
- Vision coverage.
- Partial hospitalization coverage.
- Skilled nursing care coverage.

**13.5** The default coverage will be Comprehensive Medical Coverage unless another of the above coverages is selected. The indication of Comprehensive Medical Coverage presumes medical coverage, inpatient coverage, outpatient coverage, and pharmacy coverage. Medical contractors must develop the OHI within 15 days but is not responsible for development of pharmacy.

**13.5.1** The pharmacy contractor(s) is/are expected to develop and maintain pharmacy OHI. Pharmacy placeholder policies will be developed by the pharmacy contractor, regardless of which organization created the placeholder. All other placeholder policies will be developed by the contractor, regardless of which organization created the placeholder. MHS organizations will not normally enter placeholder policies but would develop them if they created them.

**13.5.2** The dental contractor(s) are expected to develop and maintain dental OHI.

**13.6** A person can have multiple types of OHI coverage for one policy. For example, to add an OHI policy that covers medical and vision, two OHI coverage types, one for medical coverage and one for vision coverage, would be sent to DEERS.

**13.7** A person can have multiple OHI policies. Multiple OHI policies may have the same or different Health Insurance Carriers (HICs), and/or the same or different OHI policy effective periods.

## **14.0 SIT PROGRAM**

The SIT Program supports the MHS billing and collection process. The SIT is validated by the DHA UBO through the DoD Verification Point of Contact (VPOC). The VPOC is ultimately responsible for maintaining the SIT in DEERS, which is the system of record for SIT information. The SIT provides

uniform billing information for reimbursement of pharmacy, dental, and medical care costs covered through commercial policies held by the DoD beneficiary population. MHS personnel use the SIT to obtain other payer information in a standardized format.

**14.1** All systems identified as trading partners will request an initial full SIT subscription from DEERS. In addition, holders of the SIT shall subscribe to DEERS at least daily in order to receive subsequent updates of the SIT.

**14.2** The SIT Verification Application is used exclusively by the VPOC. The application queues all SIT transactions entered through the OHI Maintenance Application for review and verification by the VPOC.

## **15.0 MEDICARE DATA**

**15.1** DEERS performs a match with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to obtain Medicare data and incorporates the Medicare data into the DEERS database as OGP's entitlement information. This information includes Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D eligibility along with the effective dates. The match includes all potential Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.

**15.2** DEERS sends Medicare Parts A and B information to the TDEFIC. The TDEFIC sends the information to the CMS Fiscal Intermediaries for identification of Medicare eligible beneficiaries during claims adjudication.

- END -

