

General

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Supplemental Health Care Program (SHCP), with specific exceptions discussed in this chapter, allows for payment of claims for civilian services rendered pursuant to a referral by a provider in a Military Treatment Facility (MTF), as well as for Civilian Health Care (CHC) received by eligible Uniformed Service members. The SHCP exists under authority of 10 USC 1074(c) and [32 CFR 199.16\(a\)\(3\)](#). The use of the SHCP for pay for care referred by MTF providers is governed by Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (ASD(HA)) Policy Memorandum 96-005, "Policy on Use of Supplemental Care Funds by the Military Departments" (October 18, 1995). That policy states, in pertinent part:

"Circumstances where supplemental funds may be used to reimburse for care rendered by non-governmental health care providers to non-active duty patients are limited to those where a medical treatment facility (MTF) provider orders the needed health care services from civilian sources for a patient, and the MTF provider maintains full clinical responsibility for the episode of care. This means that the patient is not disengaged from the MTF that is providing the care."

1.2 SHCP-eligible Service members may include members in travel status (leave, TDY/TAD, permanent change of station), Navy/Marine Corps Service members enrolled to deployable units and referred by the unit Primary Care Manager (PCM) (not an MTF), eligible Reserve Component (RC) personnel, Reserved Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students, cadets/midshipmen, and eligible foreign military.

1.3 The fact that civilian services have been rendered to an individual who is enrolled to an MTF PCM does not mean that those services were MTF referred care. If a claim is received for a Service member MTF enrollee and no authorization is on file, the MTF must be contacted to determine if the care was MTF referred.

2.0 SPECIFIED AUTHORIZATION STAFF (SAS)/MILITARY SERVICE PARTICIPATION

2.1 For care that is **in a TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR) designated area** not referred by an MTF and is not in an area served by the TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) contractor, the **SAS** will identify, **and coordinate the** CHC furnished to Service members including preauthorization of care when required and **notify the nearest same service MTF for** civilian routine and emergency hospital admissions **so they can assume patient oversight responsibilities**. The **entities performing the SAS functions are identified** in [Addendum A](#).

2.2 Contractors will also receive claims for MTF patients who may require medical care that is not available at the MTF (e.g., MRI) and the MTF refers a patient for civilian medical care (this include all

civilian care provided to a Service member MTF enrollee). In these cases, the contractor shall contact the referring MTF for any necessary medical oversight or authorization of care.

3.0 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 The contractor shall provide payment for inpatient and outpatient services, for MTF-referred civilian care ordered by an MTF provider for an MTF patient for whom the MTF provider maintains responsibility. This includes claims for members on the Temporary Disability Retirement List (TDRL) obtaining required periodic physical exams. After payment of the claim, the contractor shall furnish the Services with information regarding payment of the claim as specified in the contract.

3.2 The contractor shall provide payment for inpatient and outpatient medical services for CHC received by eligible uniformed Service members in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. After payment of the claim, the contractor shall furnish reports as specified in the contract.

4.0 SHCP DIFFERENCES

4.1 Service members have no cost-shares, copayments, Point of Service (POS) charges, or deductibles. If they have been required by the provider to make “up front” payment they may upon approval be reimbursed in full for amounts in excess of what would ordinarily be reimbursable under TRICARE. Application of Other Health Insurance (OHI) is generally not considered (see [Section 3, paragraph 1.2.3](#)).

4.2 Non-Availability Statement (NAS) requirements do not apply.

4.3 There will be no application by the contractor of OHI processing procedures for Service member claims under SHCP.

4.4 If Third Party Liability (TPL) is involved in a claim, claim payment will not be delayed while the TPL information is developed (see [Section 3, paragraph 1.3](#)).

4.5 The contractor shall provide MTF-referred patients the full range of services offered to TRICARE Prime enrollees.

4.6 If a Service member intends, while in a terminal leave status, to reside outside of the Prime Service Area (PSA) of the MTF where the Service member is enrolled, the MTF shall issue to the TRICARE MCSC a single preauthorization for the Service member to obtain from the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA)/**Veterans Health Administration (VHA)** any routine or urgent outpatient primary medical care that should be required anytime during the terminal leave period, except the preauthorization shall not apply to services provided under the terms of the Department of Defense (DoD)/DVA Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) for “Medical Treatment Provided to Active Duty Service Members with Polytrauma Injury, Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury or Blindness.” Claims from the DVA/**VHA** for services provided under terms of the MOA shall be processed as specified in [Section 2, paragraph 3.0](#). The MCSC shall process a claim received from the DVA/**VHA** for services provided within the scope of the preauthorization using the standards in [Chapter 1](#) unless otherwise stated in this chapter. The claims tracking and retrieval requirements of [Chapter 1, Section 3, paragraph 2.1](#) apply equally to such SHCP claims. The contractor for the region in which the patient is enrolled shall process the claim to completion.

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4.7 Services that would not have ordinarily been covered under TRICARE policy (including limitations and exclusions) may be authorized for Service members in accordance with the terms of a waiver approved by the Director, **Defense Health Agency (DHA)**, at the request of an authorized official of the uniformed service concerned ([paragraph 2.0](#)).

4.8 Payment may be made for services furnished by providers who are not TRICARE-authorized or certified ([paragraphs 2.1](#) and [2.2](#)).

5.0 SERVICE PROJECT OFFICERS

Each Service will designate a Service Project Officer to be the Service's official POC with **DHA** and the contractor to resolve any overall service-related matters regarding the program. The Service Project Officers will be the POC for SHCP waivers. (Refer to [Addendum A](#) for the list of Service Project Officers).

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