

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Health Care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to beneficiaries under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes the objectives, policies, and guidelines for the use of CHAMPUS funds to pay the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for care provided to CHAMPUS beneficiaries. The purposes of this MOU are to promote greater health care resources sharing between VA and DoD, improve the quality and range of medical services provided to eligible DoD and VA beneficiaries, and optimize cost avoidance and cost efficiencies for VA, DoD, and the Federal government.

II. AUTHORITY

This MOU is authorized by 38 U.S.C. §8111, "The Veterans Administration and Department of Defense Health Resources Sharing and Emergency Operations Act," (1982), 10 U.S.C. §1104, and Title II of the Veterans Health Care Act 1992, Public Law 102-585.

III. POLICY

Individual health care resources sharing agreements established under the authority of this MOU shall:

- A. Allow CHAMPUS beneficiaries to obtain health care services from VA Medical Centers, with payments from CHAMPUS.
- B. Be negotiated between the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), or their respective delegates.
- C. Not adversely affect, i.e., result in delay or denial, the range of health care services, accessibility, or quality of the health care provided to primary beneficiaries of either Department.
- D. Assure that, at a minimum, CHAMPUS costs are not increased as a result of any such agreement.
- E. Conform with all requirements of law.

IV. BENEFICIARIES ELIGIBLE

Under resource sharing agreements established pursuant to this Memorandum of Agreement, all CHAMPUS beneficiaries are eligible to receive services in applicable Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. These beneficiaries include spouses and children of active duty members of the uniformed services, and CHAMPUS-eligible former members of the uniformed services, their family members, and survivors.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs shall implement policies and procedures and conduct overall program management for their respective Departments and enter into such agreements as they determine appropriate to carry out the program established by this Memorandum of Agreement.

VI. MODIFICATION OR TERMINATION

- A. This agreement may be modified by agreement of the parties.
- B. Either party may terminate this agreement in its entirety upon thirty days notice in writing to the other party.
- C. This agreement terminates upon expiration of the authority to provide services pursuant to agreement entered into under § 201 of Public Law 102-585.



Jesse Brown
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Date 1/10/94



Les Aspin
Secretary of Defense

Date 3 FEB 1994