



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

31 May 2001
NUMBER 5136.12

DA&M

SUBJECT: TRICARE Management Activity (TMA)

- References:
- (a) Title 10, United States Code
 - (b) DoD Directive 5136.11, "Defense Medical Programs Activity," October 26, 1992 (hereby canceled)
 - (c) DoD Directive 5105.46, "TRICARE Support Office," July 31, 1997 (hereby canceled)
 - (d) DoD Directive 5136.1, "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA))," May 27, 1994
 - (e) through (h), see enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense under reference (a) establishes TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) with the mission, organization, responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities as described herein. The TMA replaces the Defense Medical Programs Activity (reference (b)), and the TRICARE Support Office (TSO) (reference (c)), which are hereby disestablished. All references in DoD Directive 5136.1 (reference (d)) or any other DoD issuance (except the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS)) (reference (e)) to active functions or authorities of the "Office of CHAMPUS" or "OCHAMPUS" shall be understood to be references to functions and authorities of the TMA (successor to TSO, which was previously known as the Office of CHAMPUS). All references in the DFARS to active functions or authorities of the "Office of CHAMPUS" shall be understood to be references to the functions and authorities of the TMA Directorate of Acquisition Management and Support.

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components"). This Directive also applies to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a Military Service in the Navy, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under agreements with the Departments of Transportation and Health and Human Services.

3. DEFINITIONS

Terms used in this Directive are defined in enclosure 2.

4. MISSION

The mission of the TMA is to:

4.1. Manage TRICARE;

4.2. Manage and execute the Defense Health Program (DHP) Appropriation and the DoD Unified Medical Program; and

4.3. Support the Uniformed Services in implementation of the TRICARE Program and the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS).

5. ORGANIZATION

The TMA is hereby established as a DoD Field Activity of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) and shall operate under the authority, direction, and control of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)). It shall consist of:

5.1. A Director appointed by and reporting to the ASD(HA).

5.2. The Directorate of Acquisition Management and Support (AM&S), which shall operate as the primary contracting activity in support of the TMA mission.

5.3. Such additional subordinate organizational elements as are established by the Director, TMA, within authorized resources.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

6.1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, in accordance with DoD Directive 5136.1 (reference (d)), shall:

6.1.1. Execute the Department's medical mission, which is to provide, and to maintain readiness to provide, medical services and support to members of the Armed Forces during military operations, and to provide medical services and support to members of the Armed Forces, their dependents, and others entitled to DoD medical care.

6.1.2. Exercise authority, direction, and control over all DoD medical and dental personnel, facilities, programs, funding, and other resources within the Department of Defense.

6.2. The Director, TMA, under the authority, direction, and control of the ASD(HA), shall:

6.2.1. Organize, direct, and manage the TMA and all assigned resources.

6.2.2. Manage the execution of policy issued by the ASD(HA), pursuant to reference (d), in the administration of all DoD medical and dental programs authorized by reference (a). Issue program direction for the execution of policy within the MHS to the Surgeons General of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. When issued to the Military Departments, program direction shall be transmitted through the Secretaries of those Departments.

6.2.3. Serve as the program manager for TRICARE health and medical resources, supervising and administering TRICARE programs, funding, and other resources within the Department of Defense. The Director, however, may not direct a change in the structure of the chain of command within a Military Department with respect to medical personnel and may not direct a change in the structure of the chain of command with respect to medical personnel assigned to that command.

6.2.4. Prepare and submit, together with and pursuant to policy guidance of the ASD(HA) and with Service input, for the Department's planning, programming, and budgeting system (PPBS), the DoD Unified Medical Program and budget to provide resources for all health and medical activities within the Department of Defense. Support the ASD(HA)'s presentation and justification of the DoD Unified Medical Program and budget throughout the PPBS process, including representations before the Congress.

6.2.5. Manage and execute the DHP and DoD Unified Medical Program accounts, including Military Department execution of allocated funds, in accordance with instructions issued by the ASD(HA), fiscal guidance issued by the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), and applicable law.

6.2.6. Exercise oversight, management, and program direction of information management/information technology systems and programs as necessary to manage TRICARE and support the ASD(HA) in administration of all medical and dental programs authorized by reference (a).

6.2.7. Develop such technical guidance, regulations, and instructions as required to manage TRICARE and to support the ASD(HA) in administration of all medical and dental programs authorized by reference (a).

6.2.8. Support the conduct of studies and research activities in the healthcare area to assist the ASD(HA), and others, as necessary, in support of their responsibilities and to support the management and implementation of health policies for the MHS issued by the ASD(HA).

6.2.9. Contract for managed care support, dental support, other health programs, claims processing services, studies and research support, supplies, equipment, and other services necessary to carry out the TRICARE and support the MHS.

6.2.10. Collect, maintain, and analyze data appropriate for the preparation of budgets, fiscal planning, and as otherwise needed to carry out TRICARE.

6.2.11. Provide beneficiary and customer support and information services.

6.2.12. Exercise oversight and program direction over each TRICARE Regional Office (TRO), to include defining the roles, functions, and responsibilities of the Lead Agents, to ensure consistent implementation and management of MHS policies and the uniform health benefit.

6.2.13. Issue, through the head of the contracting activity (HCA), administrative contracting officer warrants, as the HCA deems appropriate, to TRO staff pursuant to a memorandum of agreement entered into between the HCA and each TRO Lead Agent for administration of TRICARE contracts

6.2.14. Provide comments and recommendations to the appropriate official in the evaluation and rating of each TRO Lead Agent, consistent with applicable Service regulations.

6.2.15. Perform such other functions as the ASD(HA) may prescribe.

6.3. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall:

6.3.1. Establish and staff a TRO for geographical areas designated by the ASD(HA). The TRO shall be provided the authority and staff necessary to ensure consistent implementation and management of MHS policies and the uniform health benefit within the geographical area.

6.3.1.1. The TRO shall be headed by a Lead Agent (a senior military officer) who shall be the focal point for health services within the geographical region with responsibility for development and execution of an integrated plan for the delivery of health care. While the Lead Agent shall be under the operational control of, and be responsible to, his/her respective Military Department, the Lead Agent shall be subject to the oversight and program direction of the TMA Director in the implementation and management of MHS policies and the uniform health benefit.

6.3.1.2. A Lead Agent Director, operating under the authority, direction, and control of the TRO Lead Agent, shall manage the TRO. The Lead Agent Director shall be responsible, in collaboration with Military Treatment Facility commanders, for development and execution of an integrated plan for the delivery of health care within the geographical region. Selection and appointment of each TRO Lead Agent Director shall be made in coordination with and approval of the Director, TMA.

6.3.2. Provide, on a reimbursable basis, such facilities, physical security, logistics, and administrative support as required for effective TMA operations. Reimbursements for inter-service support and services shall be made in accordance with DoD Instruction 4000.19 and DoD Directive 1400.16 (references (f) and (g)).

6.4. The Director, Defense Legal Services Agency, shall provide legal advice and services for the TMA.

7. RELATIONSHIPS

7.1. The Director, TMA, shall:

7.1.1. Ensure that the DoD Components are kept fully informed concerning TMA activities with which they have collateral or related functions.

7.1.2. Use established facilities and services of the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies, whenever practicable, to avoid duplication and to achieve an appropriate balance of modernization, efficiency, and economy of operations.

7.1.3. Maintain appropriate liaison, consultation and coordination with other governmental and non-governmental agencies, as required, to exchange information and advice on programs in the fields of assigned responsibility.

7.1.4. Work collaboratively with the Military Departments, through the Surgeons General, to ensure an integrated and standardized TRICARE health care delivery system.

7.2. The Heads of DoD Components shall coordinate with the Director, TMA, as appropriate, on matters relating to TMA operations, functions, and responsibilities.

8. AUTHORITIES

8.1. The Director, TMA, is specifically delegated authority to:

8.1.1. Obtain from other DoD Components, consistent with the policies and criteria of the DoD Directive 8910.1 (reference (h)), information, advice, and assistance necessary to carry out TMA programs and activities.

8.1.2. Communicate directly with appropriate representatives of the DoD Components, other Executive Departments and Agencies, and members of the public, as appropriate, on matters related to TMA programs and activities. Communications to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands shall be transmitted by the ASD(HA), through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

8.1.3. Exercise oversight and management of Executive Agents designated to perform TRICARE activities. Exercise oversight, program direction, and funding execution of Executive Agents designated to perform activities related to TRICARE activities.

8.1.4. Exercise the administrative authorities contained in enclosure 3.

9. ADMINISTRATION

9.1. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall assign military personnel to the TMA in accordance with approved authorizations and established procedures for assignment to joint duty.

9.2. Administrative support for Headquarters, TMA and the TMA field elements may be provided by the DoD Components through interservice support agreements in accordance with DoD Instruction 4000.19 and DoD Directive 1400.16 (references (f) and (g)).

10. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul Wolfowitz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures – 3

- E1. Reference, continued
- E2. Definitions
- E3. Delegations of Authority

E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

- (e) Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (current edition)
- (f) DoD Instruction 4000.19, "Interservice and Intergovernmental Support," August 9, 1995
- (g) DoD Directive 1400.16, "Inter-departmental Civilian Personnel Administration Support," October 30, 1970
- (h) DoD Directive 8910.1, "Management and Control of Information Requirements," June 11, 1993
- (i) Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 199, "Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)"

E2. ENCLOSURE 2

DEFINITIONS

E2.1.1. Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). The DoD civilian sector health care program operated under the authority of 32 CFR part 199 (reference (i)).

E2.1.2. TRICARE. The DoD medical and dental programs operating pursuant to chapter 55 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (a)), under which medical and dental services are provided to DoD health care beneficiaries. (The term “TRICARE” includes all activities described in the definition of the term “TRICARE Program” at 10 U.S.C. 1072(7) (reference (a))).

E2.1.3. Armed Forces. The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

E2.1.4. Uniformed Services. Includes the Armed Forces, the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.

E2.1.5. DoD Military Health System (MHS). The DoD medical and dental programs, personnel, facilities, and other assets operating pursuant to chapter 55 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (a)), by which the Department of Defense provides:

E2.1.5.1. Health care services and support to the Armed Forces during military operations, and

E2.1.5.2. Health care services and support under TRICARE to members of the Armed Forces, their family members, and others entitled to DoD medical care.

E2.1.6. Defense Health Program (DHP) Appropriation. A single appropriation consisting of operation and maintenance and other procurement funds designed to finance the non-military personnel requirements of the MHS.

E2.1.7. DoD Unified Medical Program. A combination of the DHP appropriation, the medical military construction appropriation, and the military personnel funds to reimburse the military personnel appropriations of the three Military Departments for military personnel supporting the MHS.

E2.1.8. TRICARE Regional Office (TRO). The office charged with ensuring consistent implementation and management of MHS policies and the uniform health benefit within a geographical area designated by the ASD(HA).

E2.1.9. Director, TMA. The official appointed by, and reporting to, the ASD(HA), with responsibilities, functions, and authorities set forth in this Charter. The term “Director” includes any other recognized organizational title, such as “Executive Director.”

E3. ENCLOSURE 3

DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY

E3.1.1. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, and subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, the USD(P&R), the ASD(HA), and in accordance with DoD policies, Directives, and Instructions, the Director, TMA, or in the absence of the Director, the person acting for the Director, is delegated authority as required in the administration and operation of the TMA to:

E3.1.1.1. Exercise the powers vested in the Secretary of Defense by 5 U.S.C. 301, 302(b), 3101, 4103, 4302, and 5107 on the employment, direction, and general administration of TMA civilian personnel.

E3.1.1.2. Fix rates of pay of wage-rate employees exempted from the Classification Act of 1949 by 5 U.S.C. 5102 on the basis of rates established under the Federal Wage System. In fixing such rates, the Director, TMA, shall follow the wage schedule established by the DoD Wage Fixing Authority.

E3.1.1.3. Administer oaths of office to those entering the Executive Branch of the Federal Government or any other oath required by law in connection with employment therein, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 2903, and designate in writing, as may be necessary, officers and employees of the TMA to perform this function.

E3.1.1.4. Establish a TMA Incentive Awards Board, and pay cash awards to, and incur necessary expenses for, the honorary recognition of civilian employees of the Government whose suggestions, inventions, superior accomplishments, or other personal efforts, including special acts or services, benefit or affect the TMA, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4503, Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations, and DoD 1400.25-M, Chapter 400, Subchapter 451.

E3.1.1.5. Maintain an official seal and attest to the authenticity of official TMA records under that seal.

E3.1.1.6. Establish advisory committees and employ temporary or intermittent experts or consultants, as approved by the Secretary of Defense, for the performance of TMA functions consistent with 10 U.S.C. 173; 5 U.S.C. 3109(b); and DoD Directive 5105.4.

E3.1.1.7. In accordance with Executive Order 10450, "Security Requirements for Government Employment," April 27, 1953; Executive Order 12333, "United States Intelligence Activities," December 4, 1981; and Executive Order 12968, "Access to Classified Information," August 4, 1995; and DoD Directive 5200.2, as appropriate:

E3.1.1.7.1. Designate any position in the TMA as a "sensitive" position.

E3.1.1.7.2. Authorize, in case of emergency, the appointment of a person to a

sensitive position in the TMA for a limited period of time and for whom a full field investigation or other appropriate investigation, including National Agency Check, has not been completed.

E3.1.1.7.3. Initiate personnel security investigations and, if necessary, in the interest of national security, suspend a security clearance for personnel assigned, detailed to, or employed by the TMA. Any action under this paragraph shall be taken in accordance with procedures prescribed in DoD 5200.2-R.

E3.1.1.8. Act as the agent for the collection and payment of employment taxes imposed by Chapter 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended; and, as such agent, make all determinations and certifications required or provided for under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended (26 U.S.C. 3122), and the "Social Security Act," as amended (42 U.S.C. 405(p)(1) and 405(p)(2)), with respect to TMA employees.

E3.1.1.9. Authorize and approve:

E3.1.1.9.1. Temporary duty travel for military personnel assigned or detailed to the TMA in accordance with Joint Federal Travel Regulations, Volume 1.

E3.1.1.9.2. Travel for TMA civilian personnel in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations, Volume 2.

E3.1.1.9.3. Invitational travel to non-DoD personnel whose consultative, advisory, or other highly specialized technical services are required in a capacity that is directly related to, or in connection with, TMA activities, in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations, Volume 2.

E3.1.1.9.4. Overtime work for TMA civilian personnel in accordance with 5 U.S.C. Chapter 55, Subchapter V, and applicable OPM regulations.

E3.1.1.10. Approve the expenditure of funds available for travel by military personnel assigned or detailed to the TMA for expenses incident to attendance at meetings of technical, scientific, professional, or other similar organizations in such instances when the approval of the Secretary of Defense, or designee, is required by 37 U.S.C. 412, and 5 U.S.C. 4110 and 4111.

E3.1.1.11. Develop, establish, and maintain an active and continuing Records Management Program, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3102 and DoD Directive 5015.2.

E3.1.1.12. Utilize the Government Purchase Card for making micro-purchases of material and services, other than personal services, for the TMA, when it is determined more advantageous and consistent with the best interests of the Government.

E3.1.1.13. Authorize the publication of advertisements, notices, or proposals in newspapers, magazines, or other public periodicals, as required for the effective administration and operation of the TMA, consistent with 44 U.S.C. 3702.

E3.1.1.14. Establish and maintain, for the functions assigned, an appropriate publications

system for the promulgation of common supply and service regulations, instructions, and reference documents, and changes thereto, pursuant to the policies and procedures prescribed in DoD 5025.1-M.

E3.1.1.15. Enter into support and service agreements with the Military Departments, other DoD Components, or other Government Agencies, as required, for the effective performance of TMA functions and responsibilities.

E3.1.1.16. Enter into and administer contracts, through the TMA Directorate of Acquisition Management and Support or through a Military Department, a DoD contract administration services component, or other Federal Agency, as appropriate, for supplies, equipment, and services required to accomplish the mission of the TMA. The Director, AM&S, shall be the head of the contracting activity. To the extent that any law or Executive Order specifically limits the exercise of such authority to persons at the Secretarial level of the Department, such authority shall be exercised by the appropriate Under Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Defense.

E3.1.1.17. Establish and maintain appropriate property accounts for the TMA and appoint Boards of Survey, approve reports of survey, relieve personal liability, and drop accountability for TMA property contained in the authorized property accounts that has been lost, damaged, stolen, destroyed, or otherwise rendered unserviceable, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

E3.1.1.18. Promulgate the necessary security regulations for the protection of property and places under the jurisdiction of the Director, TMA, pursuant to DoD Directive 5200.8.

E3.1.1.19. Lease property under the control of the TMA, under terms that will promote the national defense or that will be in the public interest, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2667.

E3.1.1.20. Exercise the authority delegated to the Secretary of Defense by the Administrator of the General Services Administration for the disposal of surplus personal property.

E3.1.2. The Director, TMA, may redelegate these authorities as appropriate, with the approval of the ASD (HA) and in writing, except as otherwise specifically indicated above or as otherwise provided by law or regulation.