

**TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN #01– 800 words (3/sec) –**

**02/05/09**

LEAD MUSIC (:03)

THIS IS THE TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN, AN UPDATE ON THE LATEST NEWS TO HELP YOU MAKE THE BEST USE OF YOUR TRICARE BENEFIT. I'M AUSTIN CAMACHO (:10)

FIRST UP: TWO SENIOR MILITARY LEADERS RECENTLY SHARED THEIR THOUGHTS ABOUT TRICARE RESERVE SELECT, OR T-R-S, DURING INTERVIEWS ON HEALTH-DOT-MIL. ROBERT FOX NOW REPORTS ABOUT WAYS TRICARE IS HELPING RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES DURING THE DIFFICULT TIME OF DEPLOYMENT. (:17)

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, MAJOR GENERAL ELDER GRANGER, RESPONDED TO THE CHIEF OF ARMY RESERVES LIEUTENANT GENERAL JACK STULTZ RECENTLY. THEY DISCUSSED HOW THE TRS PROGRAM PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE SUCCESS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENT MISSION. FIRST, GEN. STULTZ TALKED ABOUT WHAT RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS NEED MOST. (:17)

SB STULTZ:

7:09 – 7:27 WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY OF CARE SO THAT THAT SOLDIER AND FAMILY STAYS ON ONE PLAN. BY THAT, WHAT I'M MEAN IS AS AN OPERATIONAL RESERVE WE CANNOT DO WHAT WE CURRENTLY DO AND THAT IS WE FLIP PEOPLE BETWEEN PLANS. (00:18)

GENERAL GRANGER CHIMED IN ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF TRS. HE ALSO REMINDED RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS ABOUT THE NEW RATES THAT BECAME EFFECTIVE ON THE FIRST OF THIS YEAR. (:09)

SB GRANGER:

(1:18 – 1:42) IN 2005, WE BROUGHT ON TRICARE RESERVE SELECT. IT HAD THREE TIERS. IT WAS CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, A THREE TIERED SYSTEM WAS MORE CONFUSING AND COMPLICATED THAN WE REALIZED. CONGRESS THEN ALLOWED US TO ADJUST TO A TIER ONE TYPE SYSTEM. WE GOT THAT PROGRAM STARTED A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO. (00:24)

GENERAL STULTZ AGREED THAT THE NEW RATES WERE A BIG HELP FOR GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS. (:06)

(4:51 – 5:04 )AS A FAMILY, IT'S NOW 180 DOLLARS A MONTH. THAT'S A STEAL. WHAT I'VE TOLD THE SOLDIERS IS THAT IT GIVES YOU SOME FLEXIBILITY. (00:13)

TRS RATES CHANGED FROM \$81 TO \$47.51 FOR SINGLE MEMBERS AND FOR MEMBER-AND-FAMILY COVERAGE THEY DROPPED 29 PERCENT, FROM \$253 TO \$180.17. FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, I'M ROBERT FOX. (:10)

-----  
NEXT, TRICARE CONTINUES TO IMPROVE WAYS TO PROVIDE  
INFORMATION TO ITS 9.2 MILLION BENEFICIARIES, AS ANNMARIE  
FELICIO REPORTS. (:09)

TO CARE FOR ITS BENEFICIARIES, TRICARE USES SEVERAL  
DIFFERENT CONTRACTORS TO ADMINISTER HEALTHCARE,  
PHARMACY AND DENTAL BENEFITS AROUND THE WORLD – AND  
THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION CAN ALL BE FOUND ON ONE  
PAGE AT [WWW.TRICARE.MIL/CONTACTUS](http://WWW.TRICARE.MIL/CONTACTUS).

ON THE SITE, BENEFICIARIES WILL FIND TOLL-FREE NUMBERS  
TO THE TRICARE REGIONAL OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES  
AND THE OVERSEAS TRICARE AREA OFFICES, AS WELL AS  
REGIONAL MANAGED CARE SUPPORT CONTRACTORS, DENTAL  
CONTRACTORS, THE TRICARE MAIL ORDER AND RETAIL  
PHARMACY CONTRACTOR, INTERNATIONAL SOS ALARM  
CENTERS AND MUCH MORE.

IN ADDITION TO TELEPHONE NUMBERS, THE CONTACT PAGE

PROVIDES LINKS TO LOCATE THE NEAREST MILITARY  
TREATMENT FACILITIES, BENEFICIARY COUNSELING AND  
ASSISTANCE COORDINATORS AND DEBT COLLECTION  
ASSISTANCE OFFICERS.

THE INFORMATION IS EASY TO PRINT OUT – TO GO ON A  
REFRIGERATOR OR TO KEEP NEARBY AS A QUICK REFERENCE.

NO MATTER WHERE TRICARE BENEFICIARIES ARE AROUND THE  
WORLD, FINDING CONTACT INFORMATION OR INFORMATION ON  
BENEFITS IS ONLY A CLICK AWAY AT  
**[WWW.TRICARE.MIL/CONTACTUS](http://WWW.TRICARE.MIL/CONTACTUS)**. FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT  
ACTIVITY, I'M ANNMARIE FELICIO. (:53)

-----

AND FINALLY, ONE OF THOSE MANAGED ARE CONTRACTORS, HEALTH NET FEDERAL SERVICES, HAS RELEASED A NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE TRICARE BENEFITS VIDEO. THE VIDEO EDUCATES NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ON THE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS THEY ARE ENTITLED TO DURING THE VARIOUS PHASES OF A MEMBER'S SERVICE, INCLUDING DETAILS ABOUT TRICARE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY; ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRICARE RESERVE SELECT TRICARE PRIME AND OTHER PROGRAMS; COSTS FOR CARE; AND DENTAL AND PHARMACY BENEFITS.

TO VIEW THE VIDEO, VISIT

**WWW.HEALTHNETFEDERALSERVICES.COM.** CLICK THE BENEFICIARY LINK AND YOU'LL SEE THE LINK FOR THE GUARD AND RESERVE TRICARE BENEFICIARY VIDEO. HEALTHNET PROVIDES SERVICES FOR THE NORTH REGION, BUT THE VIDEO WORKS FOR ALL REGIONS - SO CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NORTH, WEST AND SOUTH REGIONS ARE INCLUDED IN THE VIDEO, PLUS DIRECT LINKS TO T-M-A, GUARD AND RESERVE,

REGIONAL CONTRACTOR, PHARMACY AND DENTAL WEB SITES.

(1:07)

AND THAT'S TODAY'S TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN. WE'LL  
HAVE MORE NEWS YOU CAN USE NEXT WEEK. (:03)

TAIL MUSIC (:03)