

TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN – SEPTEMBER 17 - 649 WORDS

(547)

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: HERE IS LORRAINE CWIEKA WITH A TRICARE PHARMACY PROGRAM UPDATE.

TRICARE'S PHARMACY PROGRAM PROVIDES MEDICATIONS YOU NEED, WHEN YOU NEED THEM, IN A SAFE, CONVENIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER. UNDER A NEW CONTRACT BEGINNING NOVEMBER 4, 2009, EXPRESS SCRIPTS WILL CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER THE TRICARE PHARMACY PROGRAM TO PROVIDE YOUR MAIL-ORDER, RETAIL AND SPECIALTY PHARMACY SERVICES. IF YOU HAVE USED THE TRICARE

PHARMACY PROGRAM BEFORE, YOU CAN CONTINUE TO USE YOUR CURRENT PHARMACIES.

MILITARY TREATMENT FACILITY OR MTF PHARMACIES ARE YOUR LEAST EXPENSIVE OPTION FOR FILLING PRESCRIPTIONS. YOU MAY RECEIVE UP TO A 90-DAY SUPPLY OF MOST MEDICATIONS AT NO COST. MOST MTF PHARMACIES ACCEPT PRESCRIPTIONS WRITTEN BY CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PROVIDERS.

THE MAIL ORDER PROGRAM IS THE SECOND MOST ECONOMICAL OPTION. YOU MAY RECEIVE UP TO A 90-DAY SUPPLY OF MAINTENANCE MEDICATIONS DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO YOUR HOME FOR MINIMAL OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS.

TRICARE RETAIL NETWORK PHARMACIES ARE A CONVENIENT
OPTION FOR SHORT-TERM MEDICATIONS WHEN MTF
PHARMACIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE. TO LOCATE A RETAIL
NETWORK PHARMACY, VISIT [WWW.EXPRESS-
SCRIPTS.COM/TRICARE](http://WWW.EXPRESS-SCRIPTS.COM/TRICARE).

AT NON-NETWORK PHARMACIES, YOU WILL PAY FULL PRICE
FOR YOUR MEDICATION AND FILE A CLAIM FOR
REIMBURSEMENT. REIMBURSEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO AN
ANNUAL DEDUCTIBLE OR OUT-OF-NETWORK COST-SHARES AND
COPAYMENTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE TRICARE PHARMACY
PROGRAM, VISIT

WWW.TRICARE.MIL/MYBENEFIT/HOME/PRESCRIPTIONS OR
WWW.EXPRESS-SCRIPTS.COM/TRICARE.

FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, I'M LORRAINE CWIEKA.

NEXT, EIGHT SELF-REFERRED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE VISITS RENEW WITH FISCAL YEAR.

THE NEW TRICARE FISCAL YEAR BEGINS ON OCTOBER FIRST 2009. THAT MEANS BENEFICIARIES ARE ONCE AGAIN ELIGIBLE FOR EIGHT OUTPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE VISITS TO A NETWORK PROVIDER WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OR A REFERRAL.

AFTER THE FIRST EIGHT VISITS, PRIOR AUTHORIZATION IS REQUIRED. THERE ARE CERTAIN PROVIDERS, HOWEVER, FOR WHICH A PHYSICIAN REFERRAL AND SUPERVISION ARE ALWAYS REQUIRED, EVEN FOR THE FIRST EIGHT VISITS. THESE INCLUDE LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS, LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH CARE COUNSELORS AND PASTORAL COUNSELORS.

THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE OUTPATIENT VISIT COUNT IS RENEWED FOR ALL TRICARE BENEFICIARIES EXCEPT ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS. ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS ALWAYS NEED A REFERRAL FROM THEIR PRIMARY CARE MANAGER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS, WWW.TRICARE.MIL
AND CLICK ON THE MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL TAB.

AND FINALLY, ANNEMARIE FELICIO REPORTS ON THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
REDUCTION.

TO PROTECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY FROM IDENTITY THEFT,
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OR DOD HAS BEGUN AN
INITIATIVE TO REMOVE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS FROM DOD
IDENTIFICATION OR ID CARDS. THE INITIATIVE WILL OCCUR IN
THREE PHASES.

FIRST, REMOVES DEPENDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS FROM
ID CARDS, SECOND, REMOVE SPONSOR SOCIAL SECURITY
NUMBERS FROM ID CARDS AND LASTLY, REMOVE SOCIAL
SECURITY NUMBERS EMBEDDED IN ID CARD BARCODES

BEGINNING IN 2012. YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR NEW ID CARD WHEN YOUR CURRENT CARD EXPIRES.

THE EARLIEST RETIREES CAN REPLACE THEIR CARD IS JANUARY 2010. WHEN YOU ARE READY TO RENEW YOUR CARD, VISIT WWW.DMDC.OSD.MIL/RSL/OWA/HOME TO FIND A REAL TIME AUTOMATED PERSONNEL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM OR RAPIDS LOCATION NEAR YOU.

TO RENEW AND RECEIVE YOUR NEW ID CARD, BE SURE TO UPDATE YOUR RECORD IN THE DEFENSE ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY REPORTING SYSTEM OR DEERS, BRING TWO FORMS OF ID TO YOUR RAPIDS LOCATION AND BE PREPARED TO CREATE A SIX TO EIGHT DIGIT PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OR PIN THAT IS DIFFICULT TO GUESS OR TRACE.

ALTHOUGH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ARE BEING REMOVED
FROM DOD ID CARDS, CONTINUE TO USE YOUR SPONSOR'S
NUMBER FOR TRICARE ELIGIBILITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
REDUCTION PLAN, VISIT WWW.TRICARE.MIL/TMAPRIVACY.

FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, I'M ANNEMARIE
FELICIO.

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

TAIL MUSIC (:03)