

shall conduct the demonstration project through at least two of the means described in subparagraph (E) of section 1074g(a)(2) of such title through which OTC drugs are provided and may conduct the demonstration project throughout the entire pharmacy benefits program or at a limited number of sites. If the project is conducted at a limited number of sites, the number of sites shall be not less than five in each TRICARE region for each of the two means described in such subparagraph.

“(3) PERIOD OF DEMONSTRATION.—The Secretary shall provide for conducting the demonstration project for a period of time necessary to evaluate the feasibility and cost effectiveness of the demonstration. Such period shall be at least as long as the period covered by pharmacy contracts in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 17, 2006] (including any extensions of the contracts), or five years, whichever is shorter.

“(4) IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE.—Implementation of the demonstration project shall begin not later than May 1, 2007.

“(c) EVALUATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The Secretary shall evaluate the demonstration project for the following:

“(1) The costs and benefits of providing OTC drugs under the pharmacy benefits program in each of the means chosen by the Secretary to conduct the demonstration project.

“(2) The clinical effectiveness of providing OTC drugs under the pharmacy benefits program.

“(3) Customer satisfaction with the demonstration project.

“(d) REPORT.—Not later than two years after implementation of the demonstration project begins, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the demonstration project. The report shall contain—

“(1) the evaluation required by subsection (c);

“(2) recommendations for improving the provision of OTC drugs under the pharmacy benefits program; and

“(3) recommendations on whether permanent authority should be provided to cover OTC drugs under the pharmacy benefits program.

“(e) CONTINUATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—If the Secretary recommends in the report under subsection (d) that permanent authority should be provided, the Secretary may continue the demonstration project for up to one year after submitting the report.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘drug’ means a drug, including a biological product, within the meaning of section 1074g(f)(2) [now 1074g(g)(2)] of title 10, United States Code.

“(2) The term ‘OTC drug’ has the meaning indicated for such term in subsection (b)(1)(A).

“(3) The term ‘over-the-counter drug’ means a drug that is not subject to section 503(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C. 353(b)].

“(4) The term ‘prescription drug’ means a drug that is subject to section 503(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.”

INTEROPERABILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PHARMACY DATA SYSTEMS

Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title VII, §724, Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2598, provided that:

“(a) INTEROPERABILITY.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense shall seek to ensure that on or before October 1, 2004, the Department of Veterans Affairs pharmacy data system and the Department of Defense pharmacy data system (known as the ‘Pharmacy Data Transaction System’) are interoperable for both Department of Defense beneficiaries and Department of Veterans Affairs beneficiaries by achieving real-time interface, data exchange, and checking of prescription drug data of outpatients, and

using national standards for the exchange of outpatient medication information.

“(b) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENT.—If the interoperability specified in subsection (a) is not achieved by October 1, 2004, as determined jointly by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall adopt the Department of Defense Pharmacy Data Transaction System for use by the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system. Such system shall be fully operational not later than October 1, 2005.

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING FOR ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall transfer to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or shall otherwise bear the cost of, an amount sufficient to cover three-fourths of the cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs for computer programming activities and relevant staff training expenses related to implementation of subsection (b). Such amount shall be determined in such manner as agreed to by the two Secretaries.”

DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VII, §701(b), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 680, directed the Secretary of Defense to establish the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee required by subsec. (b) of this section not later than 30 days after Oct. 5, 1999.

REPORTS REQUIRED

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VII, §701(c), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 680, directed the Secretary of Defense to submit reports to Congress, not later than Apr. 1 and Oct. 1 of fiscal years 2000 and 2001, on the implementation of the uniform formulary required under subsec. (a) of this section, the results of a survey conducted by the Secretary of prescribers for military medical treatment facilities and TRICARE contractors, the operation of the Pharmacy Data Transaction Service required by subsec. (e) of this section, and any other actions taken by the Secretary to improve management of the pharmacy benefits program under this section.

STUDY FOR DESIGN OF PHARMACY BENEFIT FOR CERTAIN COVERED BENEFICIARIES

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VII, §701(d), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 680, required the Secretary of Defense to prepare and submit to Congress, by Apr. 15, 2001, a study on a design for a comprehensive pharmacy benefit for covered beneficiaries under chapter 55 of title 10, who are entitled to benefits under part A, and enrolled under part B, of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and to provide an estimate of the costs of implementing and operating such design, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VII, §723, Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1168.

§ 1074h. Medical and dental care: medal of honor recipients; dependents

(a) MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.—A former member of the armed forces who is a Medal of Honor recipient and who is not otherwise entitled to medical and dental benefits under this chapter may, upon request, be given medical and dental care provided by the administering Secretaries in the same manner as if entitled to retired pay.

(b) IMMEDIATE DEPENDENTS.—A person who is an immediate dependent of a Medal of Honor recipient and who is not otherwise entitled to medical and dental benefits under this chapter may, upon request, be given medical and dental care provided by the administering Secretaries in the same manner as if the Medal of Honor recipient were, or (if deceased) was at the time of death, entitled to retired pay.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “Medal of Honor recipient” means a person who has been awarded a medal of honor under section 3741, 6241, or 8741 of this title or section 491 of title 14.

(2) The term “immediate dependent” means a dependent described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 1072(2) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title VII, §706(a)(1)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-175.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title VII, §706(b)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-175, provided that: “Section 1074h of title 10, United States Code, shall apply with respect to medical and dental care provided on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 30, 2000].”

§ 1074i. Reimbursement for certain travel expenses

(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a covered beneficiary is referred by a primary care physician to a specialty care provider who provides services more than 100 miles from the location in which the primary care provider provides services to the covered beneficiary, the Secretary of Defense shall provide travel and transportation allowances as specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of title 37 for the covered beneficiary and, when accompaniment by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary’s family who is at least 21 years of age.

(b) ALLOWABLE TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary of Defense may provide travel and transportation allowances as specified in the regulations referred to in subsection (a) for travel of members of the armed forces on active duty and their dependents, and accompaniment, to a specialty care provider not otherwise authorized by subsection (a) under such exceptional circumstances as the Secretary considers appropriate for purposes of this section.

(c) OUTREACH PROGRAM AND TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FOR FOLLOW-ON SPECIALTY CARE AND RELATED SERVICES.—The Secretary concerned shall ensure that an outreach program is implemented for each member of the uniformed services who incurred a combat-related disability and is entitled to retired or retainer pay, or equivalent pay, so that—

(1) the progress of the member is closely monitored; and

(2) the member receives the travel reimbursement authorized by subsection (a) whenever the member requires follow-on specialty care, services, or supplies.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “specialty care provider” includes a dental specialist.

(2) The term “dental specialist” means an oral surgeon, orthodontist, prosthodontist, periodontist, endodontist, or pediatric dentist, and includes such other providers of dental care and services as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Defense.

(3) The term “combat-related disability” has the meaning given that term in section 1413a of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title VII, §758(a)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-199; amended Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VII, §706, Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1163; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VII, §712, Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1530; Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title XVI, §1632(a), (b), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 458, 459; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title VI, §634, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2363; Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title VI, §621(d), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 784.)

AMENDMENTS

2013—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-66, §621(d)(1), substituted “travel and transportation allowances as specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of title 37” for “reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-66, §621(d)(2), substituted “ALLOWABLE TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary of Defense may provide travel and transportation allowances as specified in the regulations referred to in subsection (a) for” for “REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—The Secretary of Defense may provide reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses of”.

2009—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-84, §634(b), inserted “of Defense” after “the Secretary”.

Subsecs. (b) to (d). Pub. L. 111-84, §634(a), added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsecs. (b) and (c) as (c) and (d), respectively.

2008—Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 110-181, §1632(a), added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsec. (b) as (c).

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 110-181, §1632(b), added par. (3).

2003—Pub. L. 108-136 inserted “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before “In any case” and added subsec. (b).

2001—Pub. L. 107-107 inserted before period at end “and, when accompaniment by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary’s family who is at least 21 years of age”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title XVI, §1632(c), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 459, provided that: “Subsection (b) of section 1074i of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(2), shall apply with respect to travel described in subsection (a) of such section that occurs on or after January 1, 2008, for follow-on specialty care, services, or supplies.”

§ 1074j. Sub-acute care program

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish an effective, efficient, and integrated sub-acute care benefits program under this chapter (hereinafter referred to in this section as the “program”). Except as otherwise provided in this section, the types of health care authorized under the program shall be the same as those provided under section 1079 of this title. The Secretary, after consultation with the other administering Secretaries, shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section.

(b) BENEFITS.—(1) The program shall include a uniform skilled nursing facility benefit that shall be provided in the manner and under the conditions described in section 1861 (h) and (i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x (h) and (i)), except that the limitation on the number of days of coverage under section 1812 (a) and (b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395d (a) and (b)) shall not be applicable under the program. Skilled nursing facility care for each spell of illness shall continue to be provided for as long as medically necessary and appropriate.

(2) In this subsection: