



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

APR 18 2003

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE
AFFAIRS (USMC)

SUBJECT: Policy Concerning TRICARE Enrollment Status for Active Duty Family Members
Participating in Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO)

This memorandum supersedes HA Policy 02-003, "Policy Concerning TRICARE Enrollment Status for Active Duty Family Members Participating in Noncombatant Operations," dated February 11, 2002.

Effective immediately, for active duty family members (ADFM) who are on orders to evacuate under Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEOs), the following procedures are in effect. For ADFMs who are relocating to a Prime Service Area (PSA), the family will have 60 days to transfer their enrollment from TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Prime to TRICARE Prime at the PSA. Effective the 61st day, the family members will be disenrolled from TOP Prime and revert back to TRICARE Standard if they have not transferred their enrollment.

For those ADFMs relocating in an area where TRICARE Prime or TOP Prime is not available, the family may experience difficulty in obtaining needed healthcare services if they are disenrolled on the 61st day. ADFMs relocating to a remote overseas location, as defined by the TRICARE Global Remote Overseas Healthcare Contract, are considered to be residing in a non-Prime Service Area since those ADFMs did not reside at that location with their sponsor and are not eligible under the contract. For ADFMs relocating to a non-PSA in CONUS, the ADFMs will have 30 days from when the permanent order to evacuate is given or 30 days from when the return to overseas location order is issued to: 1) return to the overseas location, 2) move to a PSA and enroll in Prime, or 3) disenroll from TOP Prime. The ADFMs who remain in a non-PSA will be disenrolled from TOP Prime on the 31st day after the permanent order or authorized return is granted. The authorized thirty day time period will not exceed a maximum of 210 days from the date of initial ordered evacuation. Portability rules apply.

The TRICARE Management Activity points of contact for this matter are Lt Col Patricia Gaulty or Mr. Mike Talisnik at (703) 681-0064.


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HA POLICY: 03-006