

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 31.1
TITLE: DONOR COSTS

AUTHORITY: 38 USC 1713; 38 CFR 17.270(a); 38 CFR 17.272(a)(1)(13)(56)(59) and 17.273

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(e)(5)

TRICARE POLICY MANUAL: Chapter 3, Section 1.6L

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

October 27, 1995

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

32850, 33930, 33940, 47133-47136, 48550, 50300-50320, 65710-65755

III. POLICY

A. Donor costs are payable when one of the following conditions are met:

1. Both the donor and recipient are CHAMPVA beneficiaries.
2. The donor is a CHAMPVA beneficiary but the recipient is not.
3. The donor is the sponsor and the recipient is the beneficiary. (In such an event, donor costs are paid as a part of the beneficiary and recipient costs.)
4. The donor is neither a CHAMPVA beneficiary nor a sponsor, providing the recipient is a CHAMPVA beneficiary. (Again, in such an event, donor costs are paid as a part of the beneficiary and recipient costs.)

B. If the donor is not a beneficiary, CHAMPVA benefits for donor costs are limited to those directly related to the transplant procedure itself and do not include any medical costs related to other treatment of the donor, including complications.

C. The preauthorization criteria contained within the appropriate CHAMPVA transplantation policy must be followed prior to approval of the transplantation. [38 CFR 17.273]

IV. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

For a properly preauthorized CHAMPVA transplant procedure, medically necessary services and supplies related to the donor costs are cost shared for:

1. Pre- and post-transplant inpatient hospital and outpatient services that are directly related to the procedure are covered.
2. The donor acquisition team, including cost of transportation to the location of the donor organ and transportation of the team and donated organ to the location of the transplantation center are covered. Acquisition and donor costs are not considered to be components of the services covered under the DRG. These costs must be billed separately on a standard UB-92 claim form under the name of the CHAMPVA patient **and will be paid on a reasonable cost basis.**
3. Charges from the donor hospital are cost shared on an inpatient basis and fully itemized and billed by the transplant center under the name of the CHAMPVA patient.
4. The maintenance for the viability of the donor organ is covered after all existing legal requirements of excision of the donor organ has been met.

V. EXCLUSIONS

Donor costs will not be allowed for the following services:

1. Services/supplies provided at no cost to the CHAMPVA beneficiary (or sponsor or donor) and where there is no legal obligation to pay. This includes expenses or charges that are waived by the transplantation center. [38 CFR 17.272(a)(1)]
2. Services/supplies not provided in accordance with applicable program criteria (i.e., part of a research program, unproven procedure). [38 CFR 17.272(a)(13)]
3. Pre- or post-transplant nonmedical expenses (i.e., out-of-hospital living expenses, to include hotel, meals, privately owned vehicle, or personal comfort and convenience items for the beneficiary and donor, or family members). [38 CFR 17.272(a)(4)(56)]
4. The transportation of a living organ donor or cadaver. [38 CFR 17.272(a)(59)]

END OF POLICY