

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

MEMORANDUM

Date posted _____ Initials _____

February 23, 2004

Chief, Policy and Compliance Division

Transmittal #68 CHAMPVA Policy Manual

See Transmittal Distribution List

1. Explanation of changes and related index updates of the CHAMPVA Policy Manual and filing instructions are in the following summary:

<u>SUMMARY</u>	REMOVE		INSERT	
	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>
<u>Chapter 1, Section 2.4, Spouse.</u> Under Authority adds Public Law 108-183 and under Policy extends grace period for CHAMPVA-qualifying surviving spouses age 55 or older to December 16, 2004, to apply for benefits.	1-2.4	1-3	1-2.4	1-3
<u>Chapter 1, Section 2.6, Medicare.</u> Under Policy clarifies that beneficiaries age 65 or older prior to June 5, 2001, must be otherwise eligible for CHAMPVA to be entitled to benefits.	1-2.6	1-5	1-2.6	1-5
<u>Chapter 2, Section 4.5, Intracoronary Stents.</u> Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference and under Effective Date adds July 1, 2001, for acute ischemic and myocardial infraction.	2-4.5	1-2	2-4.5	1-2
<u>Chapter 2, Section 7.3, Cochlear Implantation.</u> Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference; amends Procedure Codes; under Policy Considerations adds coverage for replacement of cochlear implant external speech	2-7.3	1-4	2-7.3	1-4

SUMMARY

REMOVE		INSERT	
<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>

processor device; and under Exclusions adds contraindications for cochlear implantation.

Chapter 2, Section 7.6, *Otorhinolaryngologic Services*. Removes TRICARE Policy Manual reference and amends Related Authority line; amends Procedure Codes; under Description adds definitions; and under Policy adds coverage for diagnostic analysis of cochlear implant with programming.

2-7.6	1-2	2-7.6	1-2
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Chapter 2, section 14.7, *Family Planning*. Under Policy adds coverage for prescription contraceptives and prescription contraceptives used as emergency contraceptives and male and female surgical sterilization; under Policy Considerations adds hyperlinks to Chapter 2, Section 36.1, *Male Genital System*, and Chapter 2, Section 23.1, *Preventive Services*; and under Exclusions adds services and supplies related to noncoital reproductive technologies and male and female reversal of a surgical sterilization procedure.

2-14.7	1-2	2-14.7	1-2
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Chapter 2, Section 26.14, *Ultrasound (General)*. Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference; amends Procedure Codes; under Policy Considerations adds coverage for bone density studies; removes Limitations; and under Exclusions adds ultrasound for routine screening for osteoporosis.

2-26.14	1-3	2-26.14	1-3
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Chapter 2, Section 33.1, *Urinary System*. Amends Procedure Codes and under Exclusions adds bladder stimulators, cryotherapy for ablation of renal cell carcinoma, and extracorporeal magnetic stimulation.

2-33.1	1-4	2-33.1	1-4
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SUMMARY

REMOVE		INSERT	
<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>

Chapter 2, Section 35.1, *Female Genital System*. Amends Procedure Codes.

2-35.1	1-3	2-35.1	1-3
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Code Index. Amends index to add and delete codes referenced in this transmittal.

	5-30		5-30
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Subject Index. Amended to update and include policies referenced in this transmittal.

P-9 thru P-12		P-9 thru P-12	
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2. File this transmittal memorandum in the front of the CHAMPVA Policy Manual.

Susan Schmetzer
Chief, Policy & Compliance

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