

**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

**MEMORANDUM**

Date posted \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

May 17, 2004

Chief, Policy and Compliance Division

Transmittal #73 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>	<u>REMOVE</u>		<u>INSERT</u>	
	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 1, Section 2.5</u></a> , <i>Child</i> . Under Policy Considerations further clarifies the divorce/death of a child's spouse.	1-2.5	1-6	1-2.5	1-6
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 2.2</u></a> , <i>Breast Reconstruction As Result Of A Congenital Anomaly</i> . Under Exclusions adds reduction mammoplasty to treat fibrocystic disease of the breast; reduction mammoplasty solely for cosmetic purposes; and mastopexy surgery and breast ptosis.	2-2.2	1-2	2-2.2	1-2
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 2.6</u></a> , <i>Silicone or Saline Breast Implant Removal</i> . Under Policy clarifies coverage of implant removal; and under Exclusions adds removal of silicone or saline implants for the presence of autoimmune or connective tissue disorders and Lupus as an example for autoimmune disorder.	2-2.6	1-2	2-2.6	1-2
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 4.5</u></a> , <i>Intracoronary Stents</i> . Under Policy removes appropriately sized native vessels of <15mm length, > 3mm width; and under Exclusions removes acute ischemia and myocardial infraction.	2-4.5	1-2	2-4.5	1-2

<u>SUMMARY</u>	<u>REMOVE</u>		<u>INSERT</u>	
	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 11.1</u></a> , <i>Blood And Lymphatic Systems</i> . Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference and amends Procedure Codes.	2-11.1	1-2	2-11.1	1
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 16.9</u></a> , <i>Rare Diseases</i> . Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference and under Description classifies a rare disease or condition as one that affects less than 200,000 persons in the United States.	2-16.9	1-2	2-16.9	1
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 2, Section 30.1</u></a> , <i>Physical Medicine/ Therapy</i> . Amends Procedure Codes and under Exclusions adds clarification for acupuncture with or without electrical stimulation and that vertebral axial decompression (VAX-D) for relieving low back pain associated with herniated disc disease or degeneration disc disease of the lumbar vertebrae is unproven.	2-30.1	1-17	2-30.1	1-17
<a href="#"><u>Chapter 3, Section 8.4</u></a> , <i>Substance Use Disorder Rehabilitation Facilities</i> . Removes 38 USC 1713 Authority and TRICARE Policy Manual reference and under Policy corrects payment method for partial hospitalization for the treatment of substance abuse from cost-to-charge to all inclusive per diem rates.	3-8.4	1-2	3-8.4	1-2
<b>Codes Index.</b> Amends index to add and delete codes referenced in policies.		4-29		4-29
<b>Subject Index.</b> Amended to update and include policies referenced in this transmittal.		B – 1-3 V – 1-2		B – 1-3 V – 1-2

2. File this transmittal memorandum in the front of the CHAMPVA Policy Manual.

Susan Schmetzer  
Chief, Policy & Compliance

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