

July 11, 2012

OUTPATIENT HEALTH CARE FOR UNITED STATES VETERANS RESIDING IN OR VISITING THE PHILIPPINES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) CLINIC IN MANILA

1. PURPOSE: This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive establishes policy for the delivery of outpatient health care services to United States (U.S.) Veterans residing in or visiting the Philippines. *NOTE: This policy is intended to ensure that eligible Veterans residing in or visiting the Philippines who develop an unexpected medical condition can obtain needed outpatient medical services at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Clinic in Manila.*

Authority: Title 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 1724.

2. BACKGROUND: In 2000, 38 U.S.C. § 1724 was amended to include a new paragraph (e), which states: “Within the limits of an outpatient clinic in the Republic of the Philippines that is under the direct jurisdiction of the Secretary [of Veterans Affairs], the Secretary may furnish a Veteran who has a service-connected disability with such medical services as the Secretary determines to be needed.”

a. Prior to this amendment, VA was limited to only providing outpatient treatment for U.S. Veterans in the Philippines for their service-connected conditions.

b. The term “an outpatient clinic in the Republic of the Philippines” refers to the Manila VA Clinic, which is located at 1501 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro Manila, 01302.

c. The term “within the limits” of this clinic means that the medical services will be limited to the scope of services available at the Manila VA Clinic.

3. POLICY: It is VHA policy that service-connected U.S. Veterans who receive services at the Manila VA Clinic may be treated for non-service connected disabilities at that clinic, as stated in 38 U.S.C. § 1724(e).

4. ACTION: Within the limits of available resources, the Director of Veterans Integrated Service Network 21 and the Director of the Manila VA Clinic are responsible for ensuring that services are provided in accordance with this Directive.

5. REFERENCES: Title 38 U.S.C. § 1724(e).

6. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: The Chief Business Office (10NB) is responsible for the contents of this Directive. Questions may be addressed to (202) 461-1589.

THIS VHA DIRECTIVE EXPIRES JULY 31, 2017

VHA DIRECTIVE 2012-019
July 11, 2012

7. RESCISSIONS: VHA Directive 2007-006 is rescinded. This VHA Directive expires July 31, 2017.

Robert A. Petzel, M.D.
Under Secretary for Health

DISTRIBUTION: E-mailed to the VHA Publications Distribution List 7/12/2012