

November 24, 2023

RESCISSION OF VHA MANUAL M-1, PART I, CHAPTERS 18, 21 and 22

1. By direction of the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration (VHA), VHA Manual M-1, Operations, Part I, Medical Administration Activities, Chapter 18, Outpatient Care-Fee, dated September 10, 2012; VHA Manual, M-1, Operations, Part I, Medical Administration Activities, Chapter 21, Authorized Non-VA Hospitalization in the United States, dated January 12, 1995; and VHA Manual M-1, Operations, Part I, Medical Administration Activities, Chapter 22, Unauthorized Medical Services, dated January 19, 1993; are rescinded.

2. The information contained in the referenced manuals is either outdated or has been superseded by newer guidance that can be found across various Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) websites and resources noted below.

3. The content in VHA Manual M-1, Part I, Chapter 18, is addressed in whole or in part in the following resources:

a. The Integrated Veteran Care (IVC) Community Care Field Guidebook (FGB), Chapter 2, includes criteria for authorizing community care, and is available at: <https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAOCC/CNM/CI/OCCFGB/SitePages/FGB.aspx>. **NOTE:** *This is an internal VA website that is not available to the public.*

b. VHA Handbook 1042.01, Criteria and Standards for VA Dialysis Programs, dated May 23, 2016; and Appendix C in VHA Directive 1108.07(1), General Pharmacy Service Requirements, dated November 28, 2022.

c. Operational Policy Manuals and Operational Guidebook on the Community Care National Portal at: https://vaww.vrm.km.va.gov/system/templates/selfservice/va_kanew/help/agent/locale/en-US/portal/55440000001031/topic/55440000004673/Operational-Policy-Manuals and https://vaww.vrm.km.va.gov/system/templates/selfservice/va_kanew/help/agent/locale/en-US/portal/55440000001031/topic/554400000015483/Operational-Guidebook. **NOTE:** *These are internal VA websites that are not available to the public.*

4. The content in VHA Manual M-1, Part I, Chapter 21, is addressed in part in the following resources:

a. IVC FGB, Chapter 3 includes information on out-of-network hospitalization and instructions for how to review available community care options.

b. Information on emergency care, including how to request coverage for non-VA hospitalization is available at: <https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/Emergency-Care.asp>.

5. The content in VHA Manual M-1, Part I, Chapter 22, is addressed in part in the following resources:

a. IVC FGB, Chapter 2 covers eligibility criteria and instructions for reviewing eligibility, and Chapter 3 details processes for submitting reimbursement claims related to urgent/emergent episodes of care, ambulance services, pharmacy and travel. The IVC FGB is available at:

<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAOCC/CNM/CI/OCCFGB/SitePages/FGB.aspx>.

NOTE: *This is an internal VA website that is not available to the public.*

b. Time limitations for filing and developing claims can be found at:

<https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/File-a-Claim.asp> and information related to authorized and unauthorized care as well as instructions for submitting claims is available at: <https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/revenue-ops/Veteran-Care-Claims.asp>.

6. All inquiries concerning this action should be addressed to the VHA Office of Integrated Veteran Care (16) at VHA16IVCAction@va.gov.

7. This VHA notice will expire and be archived on November 24, 2024. However, the rescission information will remain in effect.

**BY DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE
UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH:**

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for Integrated Veteran Care

DISTRIBUTION: Emailed to the VHA Publications Distribution List on December 7, 2023.