

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 13.5
TITLE: CUSTODIAL CARE IN A HOSPITAL

AUTHORITY: 38 USC 1713; 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(e)(12)

TRICARE POLICY MANUAL: Chapter 6, Section 2.4

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

October 1, 1987

II. BACKGROUND

This policy was adopted for two reasons--because of implementation of a DRG-based (diagnosis-related group) payment system for acute hospital admissions and because of a court decision which held that the custodial care provision could not be supported in cases involving medically necessary inpatient hospital care.

III. POLICY

As an exception to the custodial care exclusion, CHAMPVA benefits may be extended for otherwise covered services or supplies directly related to a medically necessary admission to an acute care hospital if the care is at the appropriate level and is otherwise covered. Custodial care in other than acute care hospitals and in other institutions, such as residential treatment facilities or skilled nursing facilities, shall continue to be denied.

END OF POLICY