



DoD INSTRUCTION 6010.23

DoD AND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH CARE RESOURCE SHARING PROGRAM

Originating Component:	Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
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Approved by:	Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr., Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Purpose: In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5124.02, this issuance establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for:

- Implementing Section 8111 of Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), and Section 1104 of Title 10, U.S.C.
- The development and operation of DoD and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare resource sharing agreements (hereinafter referred to as "sharing agreements").
- Entry into agreements and contracts for the mutually beneficial coordination, use, or exchange of use of the healthcare resources of DoD and VA with the goal of improving the access to, and quality and cost effectiveness of, the healthcare provided by the Veterans Health Administration and the Military Health System to the beneficiaries of both departments.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY.

This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD entering into sharing agreements with the VA.

1.2. POLICY.

a. DoD may enter into direct care sharing agreements with the VA for mutually beneficial coordination, use, and exchange of healthcare resources that are consistent with the healthcare responsibilities of DoD pursuant to Chapter 55 of Title 10, U.S.C.

b. Sharing agreements must not adversely affect the range of services, the quality of care, the established priorities for care, or the readiness and deployment capabilities of the DoD.

1.3. INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.

The DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program reporting requirement referred to in Paragraph 3.4.a. is submitted to Congress in accordance with Section 8111(f) of Title 38, U.S.C., and in coordination with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (USD(P&R)).

The USD(P&R):

- a. Co-chairs the DoD/VA Joint Executive Committee with the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- b. Oversees development and implementation of DoD activities under the DoD/VA Joint Strategic Plan (JSP).
- c. Oversees DoD activities in relation to the Health Executive Committee (HEC).
- d. Identifies opportunities to enhance mutually beneficial services and resources.
- e. Submits the VA-DoD Joint Executive Committee Annual Joint Report, including progress of the JSP, to the Secretary of Defense and, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

2.2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD(HA)).

Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), the ASD(HA):

- a. Co-chairs the DoD/VA HEC with the Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, in accordance with the procedures in Section 3.
- b. Oversees the cooperative efforts of DoD and VA healthcare organizations and all committees or work groups designated by the HEC.
- c. Oversees the development and implementation of the healthcare initiatives consistent with the DoD/VA JSP.
- d. Oversees the development, implementation, and operation of the Joint Incentives Program DoD/VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (hereinafter referred to as the Joint Incentive Fund (JIF)) established pursuant to Section 8111 of Title 38, U.S.C.
- e. Issues guidance and oversees the DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program in accordance with the April 20, 2020 memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the VA and DoD.
- f. Recommends to the Secretaries of the Military Departments through the Joint Executive Committee:
 - (1) The strategic direction for policy development and implementation initiatives.

(2) The joint coordination and sharing efforts between and within the two healthcare organizations.

g. Provides DoD/VA resource sharing strategic direction and policy development support to the Director, Defense Health Agency (DHA).

h. Assigns policy and guidance development to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Resources Management and Policy with support provided by the DoD/VA Program Office, Health Affairs, to include:

(1) Monitoring the effectiveness and compliance with this issuance.

(2) Reviewing and recommending approval or disapproval of proposed JIF program investments; and monitoring the effectiveness of the JIF projects.

(3) Reviewing and recommending approval of DHA Uniform Business Office billing methodologies respective to the DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program.

2.3. DIRECTOR, DHA.

Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), through the ASD(HA), the Director, DHA:

a. Implements the DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program while overseeing the availability of information management and other support systems determined necessary for program implementation and operation.

b. Publishes resource sharing implementing procedures that direct the DHA market organizations, standalone DoD military medical treatment facilities (MTFs), and non-MTF DHA components entering into resource sharing agreements with the VA within 120 calendar days following the publication of this issuance.

c. Develops and approves departmental or interagency level agreements through the HEC or its subordinate councils, steering committees, and work groups in accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 4000.19.

d. Complies with the safety and occupational health requirements of joint-use facilities specified in Paragraph 2.e of Enclosure 3 of DoDI 6055.01.

2.4. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security:

a. Provides overall direction and supervision for policy, program planning and execution, and use of resources, for the protection of controlled unclassified information (CUI).

b. Serves as the DoD CUI Senior Agency Official, issuing CUI policy and DoD CUI Program guidance.

2.5. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

The Secretaries of the Military Departments:

a. Implement the DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program for DoD Components not under the authority, direction, and control of the DHA, while overseeing the availability of information management and other support systems determined necessary for program implementation and operation.

b. Assign policy and procedural guidance responsibility for the implementation of this issuance for subordinate activities involved in the DoD/VA Resource Sharing Program in accordance with the April 20, 2020 MOU between the VA and DoD.

SECTION 3: PROCEDURES

3.1. HEC.

a. The HEC:

(1) Works to institutionalize DoD and VA sharing collaboration efforts to ensure the effective and efficient use of health care services and resources.

(2) Meets on a regular basis. The DoD HEC co-chair may call additional meetings and executive sessions as required.

b. DoD HEC membership includes:

(1) ASD(HA) (Co-chair).

(2) Principal Deputy ASD(HA).

(3) Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense for Health Affairs.

(4) Director, DHA.

(5) Chief Information Officer, DHA.

(6) Military Department Surgeons General.

3.2. SHARING AGREEMENTS.

a. All newly developed, renewed or amended DoD-VA clinical resources sharing agreements will comply with the standard billing and payment rate structure methodologies established by the DHA Uniform Business Office VA-DoD Resource Sharing Inpatient Calculator and Outpatient Billing Guide references as updated, and the April 20, 2020 MOU between VA and DoD.

b. DoD-VA resource sharing agreements that are non-clinical (e.g., administrative services, facility space planning and usage as outlined in DoDI 6015.17, or human capital resources) are developed in accordance with negotiated reimbursement rates between the local DoD-VA sharing partners.

c. Funds received from the VA pursuant to an approved resources sharing agreement will be credited to the funds allotted for operation and maintenance of the DoD MTF involved in the sharing agreement to the extent allowed under applicable law.

d. VA medical facilities are designated as TRICARE network providers pursuant to Chapter 1 of Section 8.1. of the TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.60-M.

e. All agreements between DoD and VA related to this issuance must address CUI safeguarding requirements and information system security standards contained in DoDI 5200.48.

3.3. NETWORK PROVIDER AGREEMENTS.

a. In accordance with Chapter 1 of Section 8.1 of TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.60-M, VA healthcare facilities may enter into network provider agreements directly with the managed care support contractor (MCSC).

b. Pursuant to network provider agreements, the VA facility is established as an authorized participating provider. The MCSC may reimburse the VA facility for care provided to DoD beneficiaries according to the standardized negotiated TRICARE reimbursement rate discount established by DoD and VA.

c. Under network provider agreements, the MCSC manages the referral process to the VA facility for eligible DoD beneficiaries in accordance with Sections 1079 and 1086 of Chapter 55 of Title 10, U.S.C.

3.4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

a. Annual Report.

Pursuant to Section 8111(f) of Title 38, U.S.C., a report on the DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing Program is due annually to Congress to coincide with the submission of the President's budget.

b. External Audits.

All DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing program audits conducted by external agencies, such as the Government Accountability Office, may be coordinated through Washington Headquarters Services' DoD Audit Management Division in accordance with DoDI 7650.02, to the Office of the ASD(HA) and DHA through the DHA Inspector General office. Audits requiring participation from the Military Departments may be coordinated between Washington Headquarters Services' DoD Audit Management Division, through the respective Service audit organization, and the designated external audit liaison point of contact within the Military Departments.

c. Other External Information Requests.

All other requests for Resource Sharing program information from external agencies may be coordinated through the Office of the ASD(HA).

GLOSSARY

G.1. ACRONYMS.

ACRONYM	MEANING
ASD(HA)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
CUI	controlled unclassified information
DHA	Defense Health Agency
DoDI	DoD instruction
HEC	Health Executive Committee
JIF	Joint Incentive Fund
JSP	joint strategic plan
MCSC	managed care support contractor
MOU	memorandum of understanding
MTF	military medical treatment facility
U.S.C.	United States Code
USD(P&R)	Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs

G.2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

TERM	DEFINITION
direct care sharing agreements	An approved VA Form 10-1245c, “VA/Department of Defense Sharing Agreement” executed between an MTF and a VA medical facility. These agreements involve the exchange of services for reimbursement or services in kind. The VA form is located on the Office of Management and Budget MAX.gov Resource Sharing website.
DoD beneficiary	Defined in Section 8111 of Title 38, U.S.C.

TERM	DEFINITION
healthcare resource	All available manpower, facilities, equipment, supplies, and funding to produce healthcare services, and any other healthcare support or administrative resource.
healthcare services	Includes hospital care, medical services, and rehabilitative services, pursuant to Paragraphs (5), (6), and (8) of Section 1701 of Title 38, U.S.C.; counseling and mental health services pursuant to Sections 1782 and 1783 of Title 38, U.S.C.; and any other healthcare service, support or administrative resource.
MOU	Defined in DoDI 4000.19.
MTF	Defined in the DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.
network provider	A civilian medical provider, or medical provider group under contract with the TRICARE Program.
readiness	Defined in the DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.
TRICARE	The DoD's managed healthcare program for active duty Service members, Service families, retirees and their families, survivors, and other eligible beneficiaries. TRICARE is a blend of the military's direct care system of hospitals and clinics and civilian providers.
VA beneficiary	An individual eligible for care pursuant to Section 101 of Title 38, U.S.C., et. seq.

REFERENCES

- Defense Health Agency Uniform Business Office Veteran's Administration-DoD Resource Sharing Inpatient Calculator User Guide¹
- Defense Health Agency Uniform Business Office Veteran's Administration-DoD Resource Sharing Outpatient Billing Guide User Guide¹
- DoD Directive 5124.02, "Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R))," June 23, 2008
- DoD Instruction 4000.19, "Support Agreements," December 16, 2020
- DoD Instruction 5200.48, "Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)," March 6, 2020
- DoD Instruction 6015.17, "Military Health System (MHS) Facility Portfolio Management," January 13, 2012, as amended
- DoD Instruction 6055.01, "DoD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program," October 14, 2014, as amended
- DoD Instruction 7650.02, "Engaging with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) on GAO Audits," January 24, 2020, as amended
- Memorandum of Understanding Between the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense, "Health Care Resources Sharing Guidelines," April 20, 2020²
- Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms," current edition
- TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.60-M, "Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Health Care Resources Sharing," April 1, 2015, as amended
- United States Code, Title 10
- United States Code, Title 38

¹ This guidance is available at <https://info.health.mil/bus/brm/ubo/SitePages/BillingOverview.aspx>

² This guidance is available at <https://www.health.mil/About-MHS/OASDHA/HSPO/DVPO>