

*An annual medication copayment cap of \$840 has been established for veterans enrolled in priority groups 2-6. Medications will continue to be dispensed when the copayment cap is met. An annual medication copayment cap was not established for veterans enrolled in priority group 7 or 8.

**Veterans in receipt of a Purple Heart are in Priority Group 3. This change occurred with the enactment of PL 106-117 on November 30, 1999

***Medical care copayment required veterans who are determined to be Catastrophically Disabled and who are placed in Priority Group 4 for treatment are still subject to the copayment requirements. Catastrophically Disabled veterans in this priority group can be subject to full medical care copayments or to reduced inpatient copayments under the Geographic Means Test criteria.

****Priority Group 6 - Health insurance and all applicable copayments will be billed when the care is for conditions not related to the veteran's exposure or experience. Veterans in this priority group can be subject to full medical care copayments or to reduced inpatient copayments under the Geographic Means Test criteria.

Special Categories of Veterans - (i.e., Agent Orange, Ionizing Radiation, Persian Gulf, veterans receiving military sexual trauma counseling) are subject to medical care copayments when the treatment is not related to their exposure or experience. The initial registry examination and follow-up visits to receive results of the examination are not billed to the health insurance carrier. However, care provided not related to exposure, if it is nonservice-connected will be billed to the insurance carrier.

Medication Copayment Exemption - All veterans receiving prescriptions for NSC conditions who meet the low income criteria (income limits for the VA NSC pension program) are exempt from the medication copayment.

Long Term Care Copayments - Changes to Long Term Care Copayments are effective June 17, 2002 and are displayed on a separate chart.

Priority Group 7a and 7c Veterans -- Veterans enrolled in this priority group have income above the VA Means Test threshold but below the Geographic Means Test threshold and are responsible for 20% of the inpatient copayment and 20% of the inpatient per diem copayment. The geographic means test copayment reduction does not apply to outpatient and medication copayments and veterans will be assessed the full applicable copayment charges. Note that reduced inpatient copayments can apply to veterans in Priority Groups 4 and 6 based upon the income of the veteran.

Priority Group 7e and 7g Veterans -- Veterans assigned to Priority Group 7e or 7g are not eligible for enrollment if a decision to restrict enrollment of new Priority Group 7 veterans has been made. These veterans are eligible for care of their NSC conditions on a humanitarian emergency basis and are charged the applicable tortuously liable billing rate for services provided. Veterans in Priority Group 7e are eligible for care of SC conditions at no charge.

Priority Group 8a and 8c Veterans-- Veterans enrolled in this priority group are responsible for the full inpatient copayment and the inpatient per diem copayment for care of their NSC conditions. Veterans in this priority group are also responsible for outpatient and medication copayments for care of their NSC conditions.

Priority Group 8e and 8g Veterans -- Veterans assigned to Priority Group 8e or 8g are not eligible for enrollment. These veterans are eligible for care of their NSC conditions on a humanitarian emergency basis and are charged the applicable tortuously liable billing rate for services provided. Veterans in Priority Group 8e are eligible for care of SC conditions at no charge.

January 2003

ENROLLMENT PRIORITIES

Priority Group 1:

- Veterans with service-connected conditions rated 50 percent or more disabling

Priority Group 2:

- Veterans with service-connected conditions rated 30 to 40 percent or more disabling

Priority Group 3:

- Veterans who are former POWs; who are awarded the Purple Heart; who have service-connected conditions rated 10 or 20 percent disabling; who are discharged from active duty for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; or who are awarded special eligibility classification under 38 U.S.C., Section 1151

Priority Group 4

- Veterans who are receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits; or who have been determined by VA to be catastrophically disabled

Priority Group 5

- Nonservice-connected veterans whose income and net worth are below the established dollar threshold
- Zero percent noncompensable service-connected veterans whose income and net worth are below the established dollar threshold
- Veterans in receipt of VA pension
- Veterans eligible for Medicaid

Priority Group 6

Includes all other eligible veterans who are not required to make a co-payment for their medical care, including:

- World War I and Mexican Border War veterans
- Compensable zero percent service-connected veterans
- Veterans solely seeking care for disorders associated with exposure to a toxic substance, radiation, or for disorders associated with service in the Gulf War, or; for any illness associated with service in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 (note that for other treatment these veterans are required to make copayments based upon their reported income either under the Geographic Means Test copayment levels or the full medical care copayment rate).

Priority Group 7

Veterans whose income is above the VA Means Test threshold but below the applicable Geographic Means Test threshold who agree to copayments (inpatient copayments reduced by 80%).

- Group 7a. Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans
- Group 7c. Nonservice-connected veterans

Veterans who are not eligible for enrollment if an enrollment decision to restrict enrollment of new Priority Group 7 veterans has been made.

These veterans are eligible for care of NSC conditions on a humanitarian emergency basis and for care of SC conditions

- Group 7e. Zero percent Noncompensable service-connected veterans who applied for enrollment after the date of an enrollment decision to restrict enrollment of new Priority Group 7 veterans
- Group 7g. Nonservice-connected veterans who applied for enrollment after the date of an enrollment decision to restrict enrollment of new Priority Group 7 veterans

Priority Group 8

Veterans not included in priority group 4, 6 or 7 who are eligible for care only if they agree to pay the medical care copayment.

- Group 8a. Zero percent Noncompensable service-connected veterans
- Group 8c. Nonservice-connected veterans

Veterans who are not eligible for enrollment. These veterans are eligible for care of NSC conditions on a humanitarian emergency basis and for care of SC conditions

- Group 8e. Zero percent Noncompensable service-connected veterans who applied for enrollment after January 16, 2003
- Group 8g. Nonservice-connected veterans who applied for enrollment after January 16, 2003