Foreign Medical Program

VA
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Chief Business Office Purchased Care

Foreign Medical Program (FMP)

FMP is a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care benefits program for U.S. Veterans with VA-rated, service-connected disabilities who are living or traveling abroad. This brochure addresses the procedures for obtaining health care services for service-connected disabilities while in a foreign country and how to file a claim for reimbursement of a medical service or supply.

With the exception of health care services received in the Philippines, all health care services provided in foreign countries fall under the jurisdiction of FMP. FMP is administered by VA's Chief Business Office Purchased Care (CBOPC) in Denver, Colorado. CBOPC is responsible for all aspects of the program, including the Veteran's registration process, application processing, verification of eligibility, authorization of benefits and the processing and payment of claims.

You may apply for FMP benefits by submitting to us your full name, mailing address, address of residence (including country), U.S. Social Security number and VA claim number.

Veterans who are simply traveling overseas and are not planning on a permanent relocation may still want to notify CBOPC in the event that medical services are required for a VA-rated, service-connected disability.

Eligibility

The eligibility requirements for medical services for Veterans outside the United States are different from those for Veterans within the United States. VA may authorize foreign medical services for Veterans only for a VA-rated, service-connected disability, or any disability that is associated with and held to be aggravating a VA-rated service-connected disability. This means that disability percentages have no bearing when determining eligibility for foreign medical services

Authorization

Authorization in advance of obtaining FMP health care services for VA-rated, service-connected disabilities is not necessary. Veterans who have established permanent residence in a country other than the Philippines are encouraged to notify the FMP of their current address. At that time, arrangements will be made for FMP registration and the mailing of program material.

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Selecting Health Care Providers

Although Veterans may select providers of their choice, it is recommended (not required) that selected providers have the ability to produce their medical documentation and billing statements in English. Documents submitted in a language other than English will require contracted translation services, which may delay claims processing and payment.

Covered Benefits

Generally, as long as the service is medically necessary for the treatment of a VA-rated, service-connected disability, or any disability associated with and held to be aggravating a service-connected disability, it will be covered. Services must be accepted by VA and the U.S. medical community, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the American Medical Association.

How to File a Claim

Under FMP you may elect to choose any health care provider who is licensed to provide the medical services you require. You may pay the provider and then file a claim by submitting the bill, medical documentation and proof of payment to the FMP office. Or your provider, if willing, may submit the bill and medical documentation to FMP for payment. The FMP address is:

Chief Business Office Purchased Care
Foreign Medical Program
PO Box 469061
Denver CO 80246-9061
USA

FMP payments are made by U.S. Treasury checks, issued in U.S. currency. Payments are based on the exchange rate applicable for the date service was rendered, or in the case of hospitalization, the discharge date.

FMP Veterans who are living in Canada must submit their claims for care of service-connected disabilities to:

Foreign Countries Operations
Veterans Affairs Canada
66 Slater St., Suite 1405
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A OP4.

Telephone (toll free): 1-888-996-2242
Fax: 1-613-991-0305

FMP Assistance

For assistance with issues concerning health care services provided in foreign countries (except the Philippines), contact CBOPC at:

Mail	
Chief Business Office Purchased Care Foreign Medical Program PO Box 469061 Denver CO 80246-9061	
Telephone	**FAX**
303-331-7590	303-331-7803

FMP Help online

Website: **http://www.va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/programs/veterans/fmp/index.asp**

FAQs: **http://www.va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/programs/veterans/fmp/fmp_faq.asp**

Email: To contact us by email, please go to **http://www.va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/aboutus/contacts.asp** and follow the directions under Resources for the Inquiry Routing & Information System (IRIS).

Assistance with Other VA Issues

CBOPC is responsible for FMP health care-related issues. VA regional offices are responsible for determining service-connected disabilities. VA regional offices are also responsible for administering educational benefits, vocational rehabilitation and other benefit programs.

Inquiries related to any of these matters should be directed to the Veteran's servicing regional office.

For general information related to these and other benefits, visit VA's Foreign Benefits website: **www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/foreign/index.htm**

Health Care Services in the Philippines

CBOPC has no jurisdiction over health care services received in the Philippines. To obtain information on these services, including procedures for filing claims, contact the office below:

VA Outpatient Clinic - Manila
Department of Veterans Affairs
PCS 501
DPO AP 96515

Phone: 011-632-318-8387

Toll Free: 1-800-1888-8782
(inside the Philippines Only)

FAX: 011-632-310-5967

Email: Go to **http://www.va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/aboutus/contacts.asp**, scroll down to IRIS under Resources and click where indicated for guidance on how to use IRIS for your inquiry

Department of Veterans Affairs
CBO Purchased Care
Foreign Medical Program

PO Box 469061
Denver CO 80246-9061

Website:

http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/programs/veterans/fmp/index.asp

Phone:
1-303-331-7590
(8:05 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. EST Monday–Friday)

Toll free numbers to contact FMP from select countries

(8:05 a.m.-6:45 p.m. EST)

USA/Canada: 877-345-8179
Australia: 1-800-354 965
Costa Rica: 0800-013-0759
Germany: 0800-1800-011
Italy: 800-782-655
Japan: 00531-13-0871
Mexico: 001-877-345-8179
Spain: 900-981-776
UK: 0800-032-7425