



# Provider Updates

## In Case You Missed It | September 2021

- 1. Continue to encourage patients to get the COVID-19 vaccine.** With COVID-19 cases continuing to grow across the country, it's important for beneficiaries to get vaccinated. Those who are fully vaccinated are more protected from the latest Delta variant. Find information and resources for you and your patients on our [COVID-19 resource web page](#).
- 2. TRICARE covers remote physiological monitoring.** Remote physiological monitoring (RPM) services allow for providers to monitor vital statistics for patients with medical conditions without the patient having to come into the office. Through RPM, providers can monitor a patient's weight, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, respiratory flow rate, and more. Retroactive to March 13, 2020, [TRICARE covers medically necessary RPM](#) for chronic or acute conditions. RPM services are a limited benefit and covered as ancillary services.
- 3. Autism Care Demonstration updates.** TRICARE continues to rollout changes to its Autism Care Demonstration (ACD), which provides applied behavior analysis (ABA) benefits to TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Be sure to visit [www.tricare-west.com/go/ACD-provider](http://www.tricare-west.com/go/ACD-provider) and <https://health.mil/autism> to help you track new requirements and their effective dates. Also, visit our [Provider News](#) section to stay up-to-date on the latest ACD news.
- 4. Doctor on Demand offers psychiatry services.** As of Aug. 1, our telehealth partner, Doctor on Demand, now offers TRICARE West Region beneficiaries [access to network psychiatrists](#). Offering urgent care and mental health care services, Doctor on Demand connects patients with licensed providers, psychologists and now psychiatrists through virtual appointments. Learn more at [www.doctorondemand.com/hnfs](http://www.doctorondemand.com/hnfs).
- 5. Preventive services update.** Retroactive to Aug. 13, 2021, TRICARE has updated its [lung and colorectal cancer screening guidelines](#) to align with current United States Preventive Services Task Force recommendations. Additionally, routine visual acuity and ocular function eye exam screenings are no longer covered.
- 6. Remind TRICARE beneficiaries to keep other health insurance (OHI) updated.** Having accurate [other health insurance \(OHI\)](#) information for TRICARE beneficiaries helps expedite referral, authorization and claims processing. Beneficiaries who need to manage their other health insurance information can do so via web, mail, fax, or phone.
- 7. Military hospitals and clinics in your area accept electronic prescriptions.** One benefit of TRICARE's pharmacy program, managed by Express Scripts®, is electronic prescriptions, or e-prescribe, which provides a convenient and secure way for your patients to get the prescriptions they need. You can even e-prescribe controlled substances to some military pharmacies. Visit [www.health.mil/erx](http://www.health.mil/erx) to see a list of participating pharmacies.
- 8. Don't forget to submit patient encounter reports to referring military hospitals and clinics.** Civilian TRICARE network providers are required to submit [patient encounter reports](#) (also known as clear and legible reports or CLRs) to any military hospital or clinic that refers a patient to their practice. Network urgent care centers are also required to submit CLRs to the referring (or assigned) military hospital or clinic. Providing these detailed reports helps expedite treatment and ensure continuity of care for your TRICARE patients.
- 9. Mental health resources for your patients.** Health Net Federal Services, LLC offers recorded classes on anxiety, depression and stress management. Let your patients know about these helpful tools they can find in our [Learning Center](#). Or, they can search for more information on these issues in our [Health Topics](#) section. Providers can also refer patients for one-on-one coaching for anxiety or depression; [learn more](#).
- 10. Patients can Take Charge of Their Health at home!** They'll learn about healthy habits, how to make good health decisions, become more proactive with their health, improve communication with their doctor, and much more with this self-paced online program.

**COVID-19 Updates: Go to [www.tricare-west.com/go/COVID19](http://www.tricare-west.com/go/COVID19).**