



2023 TRICARE® Provider Handbook Summary of Changes

The TRICARE West Region Provider Handbook is updated on an annual basis. Below please find an overview of the updates included for 2023, as of the Jan. 1, 2023 publication date. As a reminder, continue to use www.tricare-west.com, www.tricare.mil and www.health.mil as your resources for TRICARE benefit updates.

Section 1:

What Is TRICARE (p. 1): Added the U.S. Space Force as the eighth member of the armed forces. Previously this branch was not listed in the handbook.

Performance Based Maternity Ratings (p. 4): Removed this information as this program ended in 2022.

Section 2:

Delegated Credentialing (p. 13): Removed CAQH ProView as an option for submitting provider rosters.

Delegated Credentialing Audits (p. 14): Revised to include that HNFS will conduct audits annually, instead of every three years to comply with URAC accreditation.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Providers (p. 14): Added update for ABA providers. They can now complete live courses OR a hybrid of live and web-based instruction for the Basic Life Support or Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification.

Performance Based Maternity Payment Pilot (p. 15): Removed as this pilot has ended.

Section 3:

National Guard and Reserve Members (p. 30): Added that family members of the National Guard and Reserve members are eligible for the TRICARE Dental Program.

Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) benefits (p. 31): Removed the requirement that respite care under the ECHO benefit must be given during the same month that another ECHO benefit is authorized and rendered.

Autism Care Demonstration (p. 32): Added that active duty family members must be enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program through the sponsor's branch of service in order to qualify for ECHO.

Section 4:

Telemedicine (p. 44): Revised this section to align with TRICARE's coverage of synchronous, asynchronous and telephonic telehealth services.

Telemedicine in Response to COVID-19 (p. 44): Removed the licensing requirement exceptions put in place due to COVID-19. Also, removed the copayment waiver.

Exclusions (p. 46): Added monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of mild cognitive impairment of Alzheimer's disease.

Section 5:

Mental Health Care Providers (p. 48): Added note about telehealth provider licensing requirements.

Pre-Authorization and Referral Requirements (p. 49): Added Spravato® to the list of exceptions that require a referral and/or authorization.

Outpatient Services (p. 50): Added transcranial magnetic stimulation and Spravato.

Telemedicine in Response to COVID-19 (p. 53): Removed the licensing requirement exceptions put in place due to COVID-19. Also, removed the copayment waiver.

Section 6:

Clear and Legible Reports (p. 56): Deleted this section as it is duplicate information to Section 2 information.

Credentialing and Certification (p. 66): Revised to include that HNFS will conduct annual audits with a minimum of sample size of 15 delegated provider files to comply with URAC accreditation.

Conditions of Participation for Network Providers (p. 67): Removed the condition that providers have no felony convictions.

Section 7:

Telephonic (Audio-Only) Office Visits (p. 76): Added Current Procedure Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding (HCPCS) codes for billing of telephonic office visits.

Section 8:

Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies Pricing (p. 93): Removed reimbursement rates related to dates of service. There is now just one reimbursement rate regardless of date of service.

Split-Percentage Payments and Requests for Anticipated Payments (p. 94): Removed the dates of service prior to Jan. 1, 2021 conditions.

Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Demonstration (p. 96): Removed this section as the demonstration ended.

Long-Term Care Hospitals/Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (p. 96): Removed the transition period section as it no longer applies.

Section 9:

Acronyms: Expanded acronym list.

Glossary of Terms: Revised the “Urgent Care” definition.
