



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Health Administration Center

## **Children of Women Vietnam Veterans**

## **FACT SHEET 01-26 The Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV) Health Care Program**

### **What is the CWVV Health Care Program?**

The CWVV Health Care Program is a federal health benefits program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs for children with certain birth defects born to women Vietnam veterans. The CWVV Program is a Fee for Service (indemnity plan) program. The CWVV Program provides reimbursement for medical care related conditions associated with certain birth defects except spina bifida, which is covered under the VA's Spina Bifida Program.

### **Who is eligible for the CWVV Health Care Program?**

Children whose biological mother is a Vietnam veteran who were conceived after the date on which the veteran entered the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending May 7, 1975, and who have one of the covered birth defects as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration are eligible for the program.

### **How do I enroll in the CWVV Health Care Program?**

To be eligible for the CWVV Health Care Program, eligibility must first be established for a monetary award under the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). The Denver VA Regional Offices make the determination regarding that entitlement. Once a monetary award is made by the VBA, the Health Administration Center is provided that information by VBA and enrollment in the CWVV Health Care Program is automatic.

### **Is preauthorization required for services?**

Preauthorization is required for the following services:

- attendants
- dental services
- durable medical equipment with a total rental or purchase price in excess of \$2,000
- hospice
- mental health services
- organ transplants
- substance abuse treatment

- training of family members
- travel (other than mileage for local travel)

### **When is preauthorization required for travel?**

Travel to a physician in your local commuting area (generally less than 50 miles from your home) does not require preauthorization. If your local attending physician recommends that you be examined/treated by a specialist that is not in your local area (someone who is in another part of the State or Country), you will need to obtain preauthorization. The Request for Preauthorization should include your attending physician's recommendation for evaluation, an explanation of why the service cannot be performed by a specialist in the local area, and the name and address of the physician to whom you are being referred.

### **Are there times when travel will not be covered?**

Yes. Travel will not be covered in the following circumstances:

- When a medical provider in your local area could provide the same services sought from a provider outside of the local area.
- When the use of an ambulance is not medically necessary.
- When an ambulance is not medically required and used in lieu of regular transportation (privately owned vehicle or taxi).
- Travel for reasons other than to obtain medical service/treatment (for example, travel to attend meetings or conferences).

### **How do I request preauthorization?**

Requests may be made by fax (303-331-7807) or in writing to the VA Health Administration Center, P.O. Box 469027, Denver, CO 80246-9027. If the preauthorization relates to a medical service or supply, the medical provider should submit the request.

### **What does the CWVV Health Care Program pay for services?**

The CWVV Health Care Program allowable charge is based on Department of Defense TRICARE rates (in most cases, equivalent to Medicare rates). There are no co-pays or deductible for beneficiaries, CWVV Healthcare Program pays 100% of the allowable charge.

### **How quickly does the CWVV Health Care Program pay claims?**

Normally, 95 percent of claims for services are paid within 30 days of receipt.

### How do I get more information?

- Check out our web site at [www.va.gov/hac](http://www.va.gov/hac), select CWVV
- Write us at PO Box 469065, Denver, CO 80246-9065
- To contact us by email, please go to this web link and follow the directions for submitting secure email: <http://www.va.gov/hac/contact>.
- Call 1-888-820-1756, Monday–Friday