



Department of Veterans Affairs
Health Administration Center

Foreign Medical Program

Foreign Medical Program



Foreign Medical Program (FMP)

FMP is a VA health care benefits program for U.S. Veterans with VA-rated, service-connected condition(s) who are living or traveling abroad. This brochure addresses the procedures for obtaining health care services for service-connected condition(s) 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 Health Administration Center (HAC) in Denver, Colorado. The HAC 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 the HAC in the event of a medical emergency.

Eligibility

The eligibility requirements for medical services for Veterans outside the United States are different than those for Veterans within the United States. VA may authorize foreign medical services for Veterans only for a VA-rated, service-connected condition

or for a condition that is associated with and aggravated by a VA-rated, service-connected condition. This means that medical services that are available to Veterans on the basis of their percentage of VA disability within the United States **does not apply** when determining eligibility for foreign medical services.

Authorization

Authorization in advance of obtaining FMP health care services 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.

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 service, which will 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 condition, 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 for FMP payment. The FMP address is:

VA Health Administration Center
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 Assistance

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

Mail

VA Health Administration Center
Foreign Medical Program
PO Box 469061
Denver CO 80246-9061

Telephone

303-331-7590

FAX

303-331-7803

FMP Help Online

Web site Frequently Asked Questions: www.va.gov/hac/forbeneficiaries/fmp/FAQs.asp

To contact us by e-mail, please go to this Web link and follow the directions for submitting e-mail via IRIS: www.va.gov/hac/contact

Assistance with Other VA Issues

Whereas the HAC is responsible for FMP related issues, VA *regional offices* are responsible for determining service-connected conditions. In addition to compensation and pension ratings, regional offices are 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 Web site:

www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/foreign/index.htm

Health Care Services in the Philippines

The VA Health Administration Center 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 (358/00)
2201 Roxas Blvd.
Pasay City 1300
Republic of the Philippines
FAX: 011-632-838-4566

E-mail: manlvaro.inqry@vba.va.gov



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