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THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

MAR 12 1997

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY  
SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE

**SUBJECT:** Policy for TRICARE Criminal History Background Checks

There have been ongoing discussions about our requirement for TRICARE Managed Care Support (MCS) contractors to perform criminal history background checks (CHBCs) for TRICARE network providers. After careful evaluation, we have determined that a modification to our requirement is appropriate; therefore, our existing MCS contracts and Requests for Proposal will be modified to reflect a refinement of the contractor's requirement to perform CHBCs. CHBCs, as outlined in DoDI 1402.5, Criminal History Background Checks on Individuals in Child Care Services, are required for Resource Sharing and Resource Support providers practicing in a military medical treatment facility who are privileged to care for children.

In addition, MCS contractors must screen their TRICARE network physicians for licensure and discipline histories using the American Medical Association's master file. Physicians with anomalies in their licensure history, or who have been disciplined, must have a check of their criminal history accomplished. This criminal history check will also be accomplished for non-physician providers who practice independently, and are not supervised by a physician. These criminal history checks may be accomplished through a search of federal, state and county repositories which contain information considered a matter of public record. Among the means by which MCS Contractors may satisfy these requirements is by subcontracting for these services. It is our understanding that MEDI-NET and ADREM are companies that provide physician screening and criminal history checks, respectively.

Our point of contact is Major Kathy Larkin at (703) 695-3323.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward D. Martin".

Edward D. Martin, M.D.  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

CC:  
TRICARE Support Office  
Lead Agents

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Last update: 1/5/1999