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OCT 21 2008

MEMORANDUM

From: M. J. BOQUARD, CAPT *Boquard*
COMDT (CG-112) Reply to: Clinic Medical
Attn of: Administrator

To: Dependent and Retiree Space Available Care Patients

Subj: DEPENDENT & RETIREE HEALTHCARE SERVICES AND RECORD
MAINTENANCE

Ref: (a) CG Medical Manual, COMDTINST M6000.1C, Chap. 1 & 2
(b) AAAHC 2005 Handbook Chapter 6 (A, B, & F)

1. Coast Guard health care policy for dependent and retiree services and record maintenance is found in reference (a) and in accordance with reference (b). Beneficiaries need to be informed of the limitations of space available care, and the inability of most Coast Guard clinics to serve as Primary Care Managers (PCM) for dependants and retirees. I am requesting that a single copy of this memo be signed by each dependent, legal guardian or retired beneficiary and placed in their health record (top-right side). These beneficiaries shall be advised of this policy during check-in procedures with the unit Health Benefits Advisor or at their next scheduled visit.

2. Reference (a) states the Coast Guard Health Services Program's mission is to provide health care to active duty and reserve members in support of Coast Guard missions, to ensure the medical and dental readiness of all Coast Guard members to maintain ability for world-wide deployment, and to ensure the availability of quality, cost effective health care for all eligible beneficiaries. Reference (a) explains that Coast Guard clinics do not act as PCM for non-active duty beneficiaries, including dependents and retirees, and that care for these beneficiaries at Coast Guard clinics is subject to mission requirements, availability of space and facilities, and the capabilities of the medical staff as determined by the cognizant medical authority in charge. This policy is in compliance with the Military Health System's PCM requirements.

3. Because most Coast Guard clinics do not act as PCM for non-active duty beneficiaries, responsibility for healthcare services and record maintenance is limited to only that care provided by the Coast Guard clinic. This means that patients will be informed and educated about the care directly provided at the Coast Guard clinic and they will be informed of any recommended tests and the results of those tests, if conducted by the clinic. These beneficiaries will also be directed to follow up with their PCM for coordinated and comprehensive care.

4. Patients requiring ongoing care for chronic medical conditions are strongly encouraged to engage with a comprehensive family medicine PCM rather than rely on problem-focused space-available appointments at Coast Guard clinics. Using Coast Guard healthcare facilities rather than a PCM may result in poor continuity of care, as no single provider has visibility of all of your healthcare needs.

I attest that I have read and understand this memo that addresses the inherent limitations receiving medical care provided at CG clinics on a space available basis.

Dependent/Retiree Patient

Date

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