

September 1, 2000

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER (BAMC) BURN UNIT

1. PURPOSE: This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive provides policy for burn care provided at the Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) Burn Unit.

2. BACKGROUND: Burn care funding has been decentralized and the South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS) is no longer receiving specific purpose funding for payment of coordinated referrals. In order to preserve the long-standing agreement with the Department of Defense (DOD) at discounted rates, STVHCS will continue to coordinate burn care provided at the BAMC Burn Unit for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

3. POLICY: It is VHA policy that STVHCS coordinate burn care provided VA patients at the BAMC Burn Unit.

4. ACTION

a. The referring facility's physician will contact the BAMC Burn Unit at (210) 916-2604 or 916-0467. After BAMC has agreed to accept the patient, the referring facility will contact the STVHCS Fee Services at (210) 617-3345 or 617-3340 to handle the administrative portion of the transfer.

b. If BAMC admits an emergency veteran patient to the burn unit, BAMC will notify the STVHCS Fee Services ((210) 617-3345) within 72 hours. Fee Services will then notify the appropriate VA medical center of the patient's admission.

***NOTE:** BAMC requires reimbursement based upon historical precedent and standard DOD billing practice. Specifically, BAMC requires STVHCS to provide reimbursement for treatment of all VA burn patients. BAMC will electronically bill and collect from STVHCS via the On-line Payment and Collection (OPAC) system. STVHCS will recover the entire billed amount from the appropriate referring VA network using an electronic expenditure transfer (EB). Billing questions on this subject should be referred to STVHCS Fiscal Service at (210) 617-5124.*

c. The responsible network will also be responsible for funding and coordinating the patient's travel to and from BAMC.

5. REFERENCES: None.

6. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: The Chief Network Officer (10N) is responsible for the contents of this directive. Questions regarding this information letter may be directed to the Medical Sharing Office (210) 617-5220.

THIS VHA DIRECTIVE EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

VHA DIRECTIVE 2000-025
September 30, 2000

7. RESCISSIONS: None. This VHA Directive expires September 30, 2005.

Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Acting Under Secretary for Health

DISTRIBUTION CO: E-mailed 9/6/00
FD: VISN, MA, DO, OC, OCRO, and 200 – FAX 9/6/00
EX: Boxes 104, 88, 63, 60, 54, 52, 47 and 44 – FAX 9/6/00