

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 29. CHAMPVA (CIVILIAN HEALTH AND MEDICAL PROGRAM
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS)

PARAGRAPH	PAGE
29.01 General	29-1
29.02 Policy	29-1
29.03 Responsibilities	29-1

RESCISSIONS

The following material is rescinded:

a. Manual

M-1, part 1, chapter 29, dated June 16, 1991

b. Interim Issues

- 10-73-39
- 10-73-43
- 10-76-48
- 10-76-50
- 10-77-6
- 10-77-38
- 10-77-52
- 10-77-53
- 10-78-33
- 10-79-46
- 10-79-49
- 10-80-11
- 10-80-20
- 10-80-36
- 10-80-50
- 10-80-65
- 10-81-43 and Supplement No. 1
- 10-81-64
- 10-82-6
- 10-82-7 and Supplement No. 1
- 10-82-9 and Supplement No. 1
- 10-82-51 and Supplement No. 1
- 10-83-4
- 10-83-22
- 10-84-6
- 10-84-9

c. VHA Circulars

- 10-74-7
- 10-74-12
- 10-74-24
- 10-74-50
- 10-74-137
- 10-74-237
- 10-75-40
- 10-75-50
- 10-75-303
- 10-76-155
- 10-76-261
- 10-76-279

- 10-78-89
- 10-83-20
- 10-84-7
- 10-84-62
- 10-84-136
- 10-86-104
- 10-89-11

CHAPTER 29. CHAMPVA (CIVILIAN HEALTH AND MEDICAL PROGRAM
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS)

29.01 GENERAL

a. CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs) is a cost shared health benefits program established for the dependents and survivors of certain severely disabled and/or deceased veterans.

b. The program is administered by the Director, CHAMPVA Center, 4500 Cherry Creek Drive, S., Denver, CO 80222, who is under the administrative and programmatic direction of the Director, Administrative Services Office (161), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20420.

29.02 POLICY

a. The CHAMPVA Center is established to administer all CHAMPVA activities including eligibility verification, authorization, and claims and payment processing. Legal authority and references for the CHAMPVA program are cited in 38 U.S.C. (United States Code) Section 1713 and within 38 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) paragraph 17.54. Program guidelines and operational policy are defined in the CHAMPVA Center Operations Policy Manual.

b. Eligibility for CHAMPVA is based upon the beneficiary's relationship to the veteran sponsor and the veteran's status as adjudicated by a VA (Department of Veterans Affairs) Regional Office. Veterans in the following categories may be eligible veteran sponsors:

(1) The veteran is permanently and totally disabled because of an adjudicated service-connected disability (excluding veterans awarded benefits under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. Sections 1151 and 1160); or

(2) The veteran died because of an adjudicated service-connected disability; or

(3) The veteran, who at the time of death, had been rated permanently and totally disabled because of an adjudicated service-connected disability; or

(4) The sponsor died or incurred an adjudicated service-connected disability while in the line of duty and not due to their own misconduct or the abuse of alcohol or drugs.

c. Survivors and dependents of veteran sponsors as identified in subparagraphs b(1) through b(4) may be eligible for CHAMPVA benefits. Official determination of eligibility will be provided only upon application to the CHAMPVA Center.

29.03 RESPONSIBILITIES

a. The Director, Administrative Services Office (161), VA Central Office, shall be responsible for:

(1) Program management of CHAMPVA and supervision of the CHAMPVA Center Director;

(2) Ensuring the establishment of policy consistent with public laws and regulations for the management and operation of the CHAMPVA program;

- (3) Establishing centralized reporting requirements as needed;
- (4) Performing periodic reviews and making recommendations to the Director, CHAMPVA Center;
- (5) Coordinating the announcement of centralized positions for the CHAMPVA Center with the Office of Personnel, VA Central Office, and serving as a selecting official; and
- (6) Functioning in a liaison capacity with the Director, CHAMPVA Center, other VA Central Office staff, and other federal agencies.

b. The Director, CHAMPVA Center, is responsible for:

- (1) The daily management of all CHAMPVA Center activities including planning, organizing, budgeting, directing, coordinating, evaluating and improving administrative operations of the Center;
- (2) Representing VA as the CHAMPVA program official and exercising a controlling influence in all matters of executive level involvement in CHAMPVA program matters;
- (3) Making final decisions on recommendations and actions having a direct and substantial effect on the organization;
- (4) Providing liaison support to representatives of Congress, OMB (Office of Management and Budget), GAO (General Accounting Office) and other federal organizations and the development of reports required to meet VA needs;
- (5) Maintaining the CHAMPVA Center Operations Policy Manual consistent with applicable public laws, regulations, and established program requirements; and
- (6) Development and application of a comprehensive Quality Assurance Program to ensure compliance with established industry standards.

Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Washington, DC 20420

M-1, Part I
Chapter 29

September 18, 1992

1. Transmitted is a revision to Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration Manual M-1, "Operations," Part I, "Medical Administration Activities," Chapter 29, "CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs)." Brackets have not been used to indicate the changes.

2. Principal changes are:

a. Paragraph 29.01: Subparagraph a is corrected to delete "federally mandated."

b. Paragraph 29.02: Subparagraph a is corrected to reflect new 38 U.S.C. Section number. Subparagraph b has an editorial correction in the spelling of "beneficiaries to read beneficiary's." Subparagraph b(1) is corrected to reflect new 38 U.S.C. section numbers.

c. Paragraph 29.03: Subparagraph a(1) is rewritten to provide a clearer definition of the Director, Administrative Services Office (161), VA Central Office, responsibilities as relates to the CHAMPVA. Subparagraph a(4) has inserted a period after CHAMPVA and deleted the remainder of the sentence. Subparagraphs b(1) and b(2) are deleted in their entirety. Subparagraph c is redesignated as subparagraph b.

3. Filing Instructions

Remove Pages

29-i
29-1 through 29-2

Insert pages

29-i through 29-ii
29-1 through 29-2

4. RESCISSIONS: M-1, part I, chapter 29, dated June 16, 1991

James W. Holsinger, Jr., M.D.
Chief Medical Director

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Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Washington, DC 20420

M-1, Part I
Chapter 29

June 16, 1991

1. Transmitted is Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration Manual M-1, "Operations," Part I, "Medical Administration Activities," Chapter 29, "CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs)."

2. The purpose of this chapter is to outline the primary responsibilities of the Denver, Colorado, CHAMPVA Center Director; the Director of the VA Medical Center, Denver, Colorado; and the VA Central Office, Veterans Health Administration, Director of Medical Administration Service, in the management and operation of the CHAMPVA.

3. Filing Instructions

Insert pages

29-i through 29-2

4. RESCISSIONS: Interim Issues 10-73-39, 10-73-43, 10-76-48, 10-76-50, 10-77-6, 10-77-38, 10-77-52, 10-77-53, 10-78-33, 10-79-46, 10-79-49, 10-80-11, 10-80-20, 10-80-36, 10-80-50, 10-80-65, 10-81-43 and Supplement No. 1, 10-81-64, 10-82-6, 10-82-7 and Supplement No. 1, 10-82-9 and Supplement No. 1, 10-82-51 and Supplement No. 1, 10-83-4, 10-83-22, 10-84-6 and 10-84-9. VHA Circulars: 10-74-7, 10-74-12, 10-74-24, 10-74-50, 10-74-137, 10-74-237, 10-75-40, 10-75-50, 10-75-303, 10-76-155, 10-76-261, 10-76-279, 10-78-89, 10-83-20, 10-84-7, 10-84-62, 10-84-136, 10-86-104, and 10-89-11.

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Chief Medical Director

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