2011 Military Health System Conference

TRICARE Overseas Contract

Operational Aspects of the New Contract & Transition “Lessons Learned”

The Quadruple Aim: Working Together, Achieving Success
Danita Hunter, Mike Talisnik, and Debra Hatzel

January 24, 2011

TRICARE Overseas Program Branch, TMA
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Overview

- Contract Requirements
- Contract Challenges
- Transition
- Contract Start-up
- Lessons Learned
Contract Requirements

- Networks in Military Treatment Facility (MTF) locations and designated remote areas
- Referral management
- Medical management
- Enrollment
- Beneficiary/provider services
- Claims processing
- Data access and security
- Quality management/quality improvement
Contract Challenges

- 10-month transition timeline
- Data quality/systems integration issues
- Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)
- Barriers to network development
- Host nation provider perceptions and concerns
- DoD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP)
- Enrollment transfers from legacy contracts
Contract Challenges (continued)

- Authorization requirements for care in Continental United States (CONUS)
- Beneficiary and provider education
- External claims review/audit contract
- Beneficiary and provider surveys
- Timely filing requirements
- Ongoing policy changes (e.g., TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR) program)
- Supplemental Health Care Program (SHCP)
Transition

- Contract deliverables (reports/plans)
- DIACAP certification/systems integration
- Network development issues
  - Indemnification clause
  - Standardization of claims forms
  - Legacy payment processes
- Enrollment issues
  - Enrollment backlog
  - Erroneous/missing enrollment letters
Contract Start-Up

- Health care delivery began on time
- Referral and Authorization Management
- Call Center services/telephone support
- Interim authorization processes
- Beneficiary and provider education/outreach
- Access to contractor data
- Network penetration rates
- Claims processing statistics
Lessons Learned

- Initiate DIACAP discussions immediately following contract award
- Establish realistic base period (12 months)
- Develop MOU template early (pre-award)
- Standardize procedures whenever possible
- Use Integrated Product Teams (IPTs) for complex modifications and processes
- Data quality and access is critical to success
- COMMUNICATION!!!
Looking Ahead

- Contract surveillance/audits
- Phase-out of interim authorization process
- Refine and finalize processes for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and CONUS care
- Maintain and increase provider network
- SHCP working group/contract modification
- TRICARE Young Adult benefit
- MOU annual updates
Summary

Coming together is a beginning. 
Keeping together is progress. 
Working together is success. 

~Henry Ford

Teamwork doesn't tolerate the inconvenience of distance.

~Author Unknown
Questions?

Thank you for attending!