

claims. Records are also maintained on health care demonstration projects, including enrollment and authorization agreements, correspondence, memoranda, forms and reports, which are acquired or utilized during the projects.

**AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

41 CFR 101–11.000; chapter 55, 10 U.S.C. 613, chapter 17, 38 U.S.C.; 32 CFR part 199; and E.O. 9397 (SSN).

**PURPOSE(S):**

TRICARE Management Activity and its contractors, DoD staff (including Military Treatment Facilities, clinics and Lead Agent Staff) use the information to control and process health care benefits available under TRICARE/CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA including the processing of medical/dental claims, the control and approval of medical/dental treatments, issuance of deductible certificates, and necessary interface with providers of health care. The system also supports audits of contractor-processed claims to determine payment and occurrence accuracy of the contractor's adjudication process.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, these records or information contained therein may specifically be disclosed outside the DoD as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows:

To the Department of Health and Human Services and/or the Department of Veterans Affairs consistent with their statutory administrative responsibilities under TRICARE/CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA pursuant to chapter 55, 10 U.S.C. and section 613, chapter 17, 38 U.S.C.

Referral to Federal, state, local, or foreign governmental agencies, and to private business entities, including individual providers of care (participating and non-participating), on matters relating to eligibility, claims pricing and payment, fraud, program abuse, utilization review, quality assurance, peer review, program integrity, third-party liability, coordination of benefits, and civil or criminal litigation related to the operation of TRICARE/CHAMPUS.

Disclosure to the Department of Justice and the United States Attorneys in situations where the United States is an interested party.

Disclosure to third-party contacts in situations where the party to be

contacted has, or is expected to have, information necessary to establish the validity of evidence or to verify the accuracy of information presented by the individual concerning his or her entitlement, the amount of benefit payments, any review of suspected abuse or fraud, or any concern for program integrity or quality appraisal.

The DoD 'Blanket Routine Uses' set forth at the beginning of OSD's compilation of systems of records notices apply to this system.

**Note:** This system of records contains individually identifiable health information. The DoD Health Information Privacy Regulation (DoD 6025.18–R) issued pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, applies to most such health information. DoD 6025.18–R may place additional procedural requirements on the uses and disclosures of such information beyond those found in the Privacy Act of 1974 or mentioned in this system of records notice.

**DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES:**

Disclosures pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(12) may be made from this system to consumer reporting agencies as defined in the Fair Credit Reporting act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. 1681a(f)) or the Federal Claims Collections Act of 1966 (31 U.S.C. 3701(a)(3)). The purpose of the disclosure is to aid in the collection of outstanding debts owed to the Federal Government; typically, to provide an incentive for debtors to repay delinquent Federal Government debts by making these debts part of their credit records.

The disclosure is limited to information necessary to establish the identity of the individual, including name, address, and taxpayer identification number (Social Security Number); the amount, status, and history of the claim; and the agency or program under which the claim arose for the sole purpose of allowing the consumer reporting agency to prepare a commercial credit report.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

Records are maintained on paper, electronic, microfilm, imaging, or optical formats.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Information is retrieved by sponsor's name; sponsor's Social Security Number; beneficiary's name; beneficiary's Social Security Number; provider's name; provider's number (Tax Identification Number or Social

Security Number); internal control number; classification of medical diagnosis; procedure code; geographical location of care provided; and selected utilization limits.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Records are maintained in areas accessible only to authorized personnel who are properly screened, cleared and trained. Decentralized automated segments within contractor's operations are accessible on-line only to authorized persons possessing user identification codes. The automated portion of the Primary System is accessible only through TRICARE Management Activity on-line data systems. Security systems and/or security guards protect buildings where records are maintained.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Paper records are closed out at the end of the calendar year in which finalized and held six additional years and then destroyed. Where hard copy records (except Claims History Files) have been converted to electronic, microfilm, imaging, or optical formats, the hard copy record is destroyed and the electronic, microfilm, imaging, or optical format is kept by the contractor for six years after claim is processed to completion and then destroyed. Claims History Files maintained in electronic format are kept for ten years and are then destroyed or deleted.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

TRICARE Management Activity, Department of Defense, Administration and Evaluation Directorate, 16401 East Centretch Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011–9066.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Individuals seeking to determine whether information about themselves is contained in this system should address written inquiries to the TRICARE Management Activity, Department of Defense, ATTN: Privacy Act Officer, 16401 Centretch Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011–9066.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Individuals seeking access to information about themselves contained in this system should address written inquiries to the TRICARE Management Activity, Department of Defense, ATTN: Privacy Act Officer, 16401 Centretch Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011–9066.

Written request for information should include the full name of the beneficiary, the full name of the sponsor and sponsor's Social Security Number, current address and telephone number.

For personal visits to examine records, the individual should provide