

During normal business hours, documents can also be viewed and/or printed in the Commission's Public Reference Room, where RIMS, CIPS, and the Commission's website are available. User assistance is also available.

By direction of the Commission.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-24801 Filed 10-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 17

RIN 2900-AK32

Medical Benefits Package; Copayments for Extended Care Services

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We propose to amend VA's medical regulations by adding the following extended care services to the medical benefits package: noninstitutional adult day health care, noninstitutional geriatric evaluation, and noninstitutional respite care. Also, we propose to amend VA's medical regulations to establish provisions regarding copayments for extended care services. These actions would implement provisions of the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 3, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand-deliver written comments to: Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420; or fax comments to (202) 273-9289; or e-mail comments to OGCRegulations@mail.va.gov. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to "RIN 2900-AK32." All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marsha Goodwin, Geriatrics and Extended Care (114), at (202) 273-8540 for issues regarding the medical benefits package, and Nancy Howard, Revenue Office (174), at (202) 273-8198 for issues regarding copayments for extended care services. Both are officials

in the Veterans Health Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Medical Benefits Package

We propose to amend VA's medical regulations at 38 CFR 17.38 concerning VA's medical benefits package which sets forth what care is provided to veterans enrolled in the VA healthcare system. More specifically, we propose to add the following extended care services to the medical benefits package: noninstitutional adult day health care, noninstitutional geriatric evaluation, and noninstitutional respite care. This implements amendments to 38 U.S.C. 1701(10) and 1710B(a)(5) added by the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act (section 101(b) and (c) of Public Law 106-117).

The medical benefits package already specifically includes respite care that is provided as hospital or outpatient care. To avoid confusion, we note that with the adoption of the proposed changes, the medical benefits package would include both institutional (hospital and outpatient) and noninstitutional respite care.

Copayments for Extended Care Services

The Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act (Pub. L. 106-117) also established provisions regarding copayments for extended care services provided to veterans by VA. These provisions are set forth at 38 U.S.C. 1710B. This document proposes to establish requirements at 38 CFR 17.111 regarding copayments for such extended care services provided either directly by VA or obtained by contract.

The proposed rule states that, with certain exceptions, as a condition of receiving extended care services, a veteran must agree to pay VA a copayment. This restates statutory provisions at 38 U.S.C. 1710B.

The proposed rule sets forth a mechanism for calculating the copayment amount. This is intended to implement the following statutory criteria set forth at 38 U.S.C. 1710B(d)(2) that states:

The Secretary shall develop a methodology for establishing the amount of the copayment for which a veteran [receiving extended care services] is liable. That methodology shall provide for:

(A) Establishing a maximum monthly copayment (based on all income and assets of the veteran and the spouse of such veteran);

(B) Protecting the spouse of a veteran from financial hardship by not counting all of the income and assets of the veteran and spouse (in the case of a spouse who resides in the

community) as available for determining the copayment obligation; and

(C) Allowing the veteran to retain a monthly personal allowance.

The proposed rule states that a veteran has no copayment obligation for the first 21 days of extended care services in any 12-month period from the date extended care services began. It further states that for each day that extended care services are provided beyond the first 21 days, unless an exemption applies, a veteran is obligated to pay VA a copayment amount for each day that extended care services are provided to the extent the veteran has available resources. This reflects statutory provisions at 38 U.S.C. 1710B.

The proposed rule provides that the following extended care services are subject to the corresponding copayment amount per day:

- (i) Adult day health care—\$15.
- (ii) Domiciliary care—\$5.
- (iii) Institutional respite care—\$97.
- (iv) Institutional geriatric evaluation—\$97.
- (v) Non-institutional geriatric evaluation—\$15.
- (vi) Non-institutional respite care—\$15.
- (vii) Nursing home care—\$97.

The proposed copayment amount for institutional extended care is comparable to the copayment amount for nursing home services under the Medicare program and copayments at State homes that provide similar services. The proposed copayment amount for outpatient care is comparable to industry standards.

The proposed copayment amount for domiciliary care is lower, in part, because of the lower level of care provided. Further, although Public Law 106-117 included domiciliary care in the extended care service package, the eligibility criteria for this level of medical care did not change. To be eligible for domiciliary care, veterans must have a very low income, usually an amount that does not exceed the maximum annual rate of VA pension that would be applicable to the veteran if the veteran were eligible for VA pension based on the need for regular aid and attendance. Accordingly, we believe it is appropriate for the copayment amount to be low.

Under the proposal, a veteran would be obligated to pay the copayment only to the extent the veteran and the veteran's spouse have available resources. Available resources would mean the sum of the value of the liquid assets, fixed assets, and income of the veteran and the veteran's spouse minus the sum of the veteran allowance and

the spousal allowance. Liquid assets and fixed assets are included in the calculations only if the veteran has been receiving extended care services for 181 days or more. Expenses are included in the veterans allowance calculations only if the veteran has been receiving extended care services for 180 days or less, the veteran is receiving only adult day health care or other noninstitutional care, or the veteran has a spouse or dependents residing in the community (not institutionalized). This formula is designed to allow the veteran and the veteran's spouse and dependents to have minimum amenities while allowing the retention of some of their possessions to help them maintain, to a degree, a similar standard of living as they had in the past. Also, this formula is intended to help ensure that veterans institutionalized for 180 days or less would have the means to return home.

The proposed rule states that, for purposes of counting the number of days for which a veteran is obligated to make a copayment, VA would count each day that outpatient services are provided and would count each full day and partial day for each inpatient stay except for the day of discharge. This formula is not only administratively feasible, but it appears to be a fair and reasonable method for counting days for charging copayments.

The proposed rule sets forth definitions of adult day health care, domiciliary care, extended care services, geriatric evaluation, institutional, noninstitutional, nursing home care, and respite care. These definitions reflect the common meaning of their terms in the context of extended care services.

The proposed rule provides that, unless exempted, a veteran must submit to a VA medical facility a completed VA Form 10-10EC and documentation requested by the form at the following times:

- (i) At the time of initial request for an episode of extended care services.
- (ii) At the time of request for extended care services after having a break in provision of extended care services for more than 30 days.
- (iii) Each year at the time of submission to VA of VA Form 10-10EZ.

The proposed rule also states that when there are changes to the veteran's or spouse's situation that would change the copayment obligation (i.e., changes regarding fixed assets, liquid assets, expenses, income, or whether the veteran has a spouse or dependents residing in the community), the veteran must report those changes to a VA medical facility within 10 days of the change. Further, the proposed rule sets

forth in full VA Form 10-10EC. These provisions appear to be adequate to allow VA to make the determinations required to be made under the proposed rule.

The proposed rule sets forth the following categories of veterans and care that would not be subject to the copayment requirements:

- (1) A veteran with a compensable service-connected disability,
- (2) A veteran whose annual income (determined under 38 U.S.C. 1503) is less than the amount in effect under 38 U.S.C. 1521(b),
- (3) Care for a veteran's noncompensable zero percent service-connected disability,
- (4) An episode of extended care services that began on or before November 30, 1999,
- (5) Care authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1710(e) for Vietnam-era herbicide-exposed veterans, radiation-exposed veterans, Persian Gulf War veterans, or post-Persian Gulf War combat-exposed veterans,
- (6) Care for treatment of sexual trauma as authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720D, or
- (7) Care or services authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720E for certain veterans regarding cancer of the head or neck.

The first four categories are specifically excluded from the copayment provisions by statute (38 U.S.C. 1710B). Also, VA can charge a copayment for extended care services only for care provided to nonservice-connected veterans (38 U.S.C. 1710B). Categories (5) through (7) reflect circumstances in which the extended care services would be for other than a "nonservice-connected disability."

This regulation will use a means test income threshold equal to the amount of basic pension VA provides to a single veteran eligible for pension benefits. The threshold differs from other means-test income thresholds established by other statutory provisions that VA uses to determine whether a veteran must pay copayments for inpatient and outpatient care and for medications because this threshold is specifically established by law at 38 U.S.C. 1710B(c)(2)(A) as added by the Millennium Act. Additionally, the copayment amounts established under this rule differ from other copayment amounts that VA must charge for inpatient and outpatient care and for medications. The copayment amounts are different due to the statutory requirements set forth at 38 U.S.C. 1710B(d)(2).

Paperwork Reduction Act

Proposed 38 CFR 17.111(f) contains collections of information under the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). Accordingly, under section 3507(d) of the Act, VA has submitted a copy of this rulemaking action to OMB for its review of the collections of information.

OMB assigns a control number for each collection of information it approves. VA may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Comments on the proposed collections of information should be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503, with copies mailed or hand-delivered to: Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to "RIN 2900-AK32."

Title: Application for extended care services.

Summary of collection of information: In proposed § 17.111(f), VA requests information from veterans so that VA can determine the financial circumstances of veterans receiving extended care services.

Description of the need for information and proposed use of information: The information is necessary to determine the amount of copayment owed to VA by veterans receiving extended care services.

Description of likely respondents: Estimated number of respondents: 8,600.

Estimated frequency of responses: 1.

Estimated total annual reporting and record keeping burden: 12,900 hours.

Estimated annual burden per collection: 90 minutes.

The Department considers comments by the public on proposed collections of information in—

- Evaluating whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- Evaluating the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed collections of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhancing the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Minimizing the burden of the collections of information on those who

are to respond, including responses through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

OMB is required to make a decision concerning the collections of information contained in this proposed rule between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication. This does not affect the deadline for the public to comment on the proposed rule.

Unfunded Mandates

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act requires (in section 202) that agencies prepare an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits before developing any rule that may result in an expenditure by State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100 million or more in any given year. This rule would have no consequential effect on State, local, or tribal governments.

OMB Review

This document has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. VA has not yet completed a cost estimate for this rule but expects it to be significantly less than \$100 million per year. VA will present a cost estimate in the final rule.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary hereby certifies that this regulatory amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601-612. This amendment would not directly affect any small entities. Only individuals could be directly affected. Therefore, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), this amendment is exempt from the initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis requirements of sections 603 and 604.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance numbers for the programs affected by this document are 64.005, 64.007, 64.008, 64.009, 64.010, 64.011, 64.012, 64.013, 64.014, 64.015, 64.016, 64.018, 64.019, 64.022, and 64.025.

List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 17

Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol abuse, Alcoholism,

Claims, Day care, Dental health, Drug abuse, Foreign relations, Government contracts, Grant programs-health, Grant programs-veterans, Health care, Health facilities, Health professions, Health records, Homeless, Medical and dental schools, Medical devices, Medical research, Mental health programs, Nursing homes, Philippines, Reporting and record-keeping requirements, Scholarships and fellowships, Travel and transportation expenses, Veterans.

Approved: May 1, 2001.

Anthony J. Principi,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 38 CFR part 17 is proposed to be amended as set forth below:

PART 17—MEDICAL

1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1721, unless otherwise noted.

§ 17.36 [Amended]

2. Section 17.36 is amended by:
 - A. In paragraph (a)(1), removing “VA hospital and outpatient care” and adding, in its place, “the “medical benefits package” set forth in § 17.38”.
 - B. In paragraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3), removing “hospital and outpatient”.
 - C. In paragraph (b)(3), removing “hospital and outpatient” and adding, in its place, “that”.

§ 17.37 [Amended]

3. Section 17.37 is amended by:
 - A. In paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (e), (g), (h), and (i), removing “hospital and outpatient”.
 - B. In paragraph (f), removing “VA hospital and outpatient care” and adding, in its place, “care provided for in the “medical benefits package”.
4. Section 17.38 is amended by:
 - A. Revising paragraph (a) introductory text.
 - B. Revising paragraph (a)(1)(xi).
 - C. Revising the authority citation at the end of the section.

The revisions read as follows:

§ 17.38 Medical benefits package.

(a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the following hospital, outpatient, and extended care services constitute the “medical benefits package” (basic care and preventive care):

- (1) * * *
- (xi)(A) Hospice care, palliative care, and institutional respite care; and
- (B) Noninstitutional geriatric evaluation, noninstitutional adult day health care, and noninstitutional respite care.

* * * * *

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1701, 1705, 1710, 1710A, 1721, 1722)

§§ 17.112 through 17.115 including undesignated center heading [Redesignated as §§ 17.113 through 17.116]

5.–6. Sections 17.112 through 17.115 including the undesignated center heading “REIMBURSEMENT FOR LOSS BY NATURAL DISASTER OF PERSONAL EFFECTS OF HOSPITALIZED OR NURSING HOME PATIENTS” are redesignated as §§ 17.113 through 17.116, respectively.

§ 17.111 [Redesignated as § 17.112]

7. Section 17.111 is redesignated as § 17.112

8. A new § 17.111 is added preceding the undesignated center heading “CEREMONIES” to read as follows:

§ 17.111 Copayments for Extended care services.

(a) *General.* This section sets forth requirements regarding copayments for extended care services provided to veterans by VA (either directly by VA or paid for by VA).

(b) *Copayments.* (1) Unless exempted under paragraph (f) of this section, as a condition of receiving extended care services from VA, a veteran must agree to pay VA and is obligated to pay VA a copayment as specified by this section. A veteran has no obligation to pay a copayment for the first 21 days of extended care services that VA provided the veteran in any 12-month period (the 12-month period begins on the date that VA first provided extended care services to the veteran). However, for each day that extended care services are provided beyond the first 21 days, a veteran is obligated to pay VA the copayment amount set forth below to the extent the veteran has available resources as determined under paragraph (d) of this section. The following sets forth the extended care services provided by VA and the corresponding copayment amount per day:

- (i) Adult day health care—\$15.
- (ii) Domiciliary care—\$5.
- (iii) Institutional respite care—\$97.
- (iv) Institutional geriatric evaluation—\$97.
- (v) Non-institutional geriatric evaluation—\$15.
- (vi) Non-institutional respite care—\$15.
- (vii) Nursing home care—\$97.

(2) For purposes of counting the number of days for which a veteran is obligated to make a copayment under this section, VA will count each day that outpatient services are provided

and will count each full day and partial day for each inpatient stay except for the day of discharge.

(c) *Definitions.* For purposes of this section:

(1) *Adult day health care* is a therapeutic outpatient care program that provides medical services, rehabilitation, therapeutic activities, socialization, nutrition and transportation services to disabled veterans in a congregate setting.

(2) *Domiciliary care* is defined in § 17.30(b).

(3) *Extended care services* means adult day health care, domiciliary care, institutional geriatric evaluation, noninstitutional geriatric evaluation, nursing home care, institutional respite care, and noninstitutional respite care.

(4) *Geriatric evaluation* is a specialized, diagnostic/consultative service provided by an interdisciplinary team that is for the purpose of providing a comprehensive assessment, care plan, and extended care service recommendations.

(5) *Institutional* means a setting in a hospital, domiciliary, or nursing home of overnight stays of one or more days.

(6) *Noninstitutional* means a service that does not include an overnight stay.

(7) *Nursing home care* means the accommodation of convalescents or other persons who are not acutely ill and not in need of hospital care, but who require nursing care and related medical services, if such nursing care and medical services are prescribed by, or are performed under the general direction of, persons duly licensed to provide such care (nursing services must be provided 24 hours a day). Such term includes services furnished in skilled nursing care facilities. Such term excludes hospice care.

(8) *Respite care* means care which is of limited duration, is furnished on an intermittent basis to a veteran who is suffering from a chronic illness and who resides primarily at home, and is furnished for the purpose of helping the veteran to continue residing primarily at home. (Respite providers temporarily replace the caregivers to provide services ranging from supervision to skilled care needs.)

(d) *Effect of the veteran's financial resources on obligation to pay copayment.* (1) A veteran is obligated to pay the copayment to the extent the veteran and the veteran's spouse have available resources. For purposes of this section, available resources means the sum of the value of the liquid assets, the fixed assets, and the income of the veteran and the veteran's spouse, minus the sum of the veteran allowance, and the spousal allowance. Liquid assets

and fixed assets are included in the calculations only if the veteran has been receiving extended care services for 181 days or more. Expenses are included in the veterans allowance calculations only if the veteran has been receiving extended care services for 180 days or less, the veteran is receiving only adult day health care or other noninstitutional care, or the veteran has a spouse or dependents residing in the community (not institutionalized).

(2) For purposes of determining available resources under this section:

(i) *Income* means current income, e.g., gross income (including, but not limited to, wages and income from a business, bonuses, tips, severance pay, accrued benefits, cash gifts, inheritance amounts, interest income, standard dividend income from non tax deferred annuities, retirement income, pension income, unemployment payments, worker's compensation payments, black lung payments, tort settlement payments, social security payments, court mandated payments, payments from VA or any other Federal programs, and any other income). The amount of current income will be stated in frequency of receipt, e.g., per week, per month.

(ii) *Expenses* means basic subsistence expenses, including current expenses for the following: Rent/mortgage for primary residence; vehicle payment for one vehicle; food for veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; education for veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; court-ordered payments of veteran or veteran's spouse (e.g., alimony, child-support); and including the average monthly expenses during the past year for the following: Utilities and insurance for the primary residence; out-of-pocket medical care costs not otherwise covered by insurance and medical insurance for the veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; and taxes paid on income.

(iii) *Fixed Assets* means:

(A) Real property and other non-liquid assets; except that this does not include—

(1) Burial plots,

(2) A residence if the residence is:

(i) The primary residence of the veteran and the veteran is receiving only noninstitutional extended care service, or

(ii) The primary residence of the veteran's spouse or the veteran's dependents (if the veteran does not have a spouse) if the veteran is receiving institutional extended care service.

(3) A vehicle if the vehicle is:

(i) The vehicle of the veteran and the veteran is receiving only

noninstitutional extended care service, or

(ii) The vehicle of the veteran's spouse or the veteran's dependents (if the veteran does not have a spouse) if the veteran is receiving institutional extended care service.

(iv) *Liquid assets* means cash, stocks, dividends received from IRA, 401K's and other tax deferred annuities, bonds, mutual funds, and retirement accounts (e.g., IRA, 401Ks, annuities), household furniture, household goods, clothing, jewelry, personal items.

(v) *Spousal allowance* is an allowance of \$20 per day that is included only if the spouse resides in a community (not institutionalized)).

(vi) *Veterans allowance* is an allowance of \$20 per day and expenses.

(3) The maximum amount of a copayment for any month equals the copayment amount specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section multiplied by the number of days in the month. The copayment for any month may be less than the amount specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section only if the veteran provides information in accordance with this section to establish that the copayment should be reduced or eliminated.

(e) *Requirement to submit information.* (1) Unless exempted under paragraph (f) of this section, a veteran must submit to a VA medical facility a completed VA Form 10-10EC and documentation requested by the Form at the following times:

(i) At the time of initial request for an episode of extended care services.

(ii) At the time of request for extended care services after a break in provision of extended care services for more than 30 days, and

(iii) Each year at the time of submission to VA of VA Form 10-10EZ.

(2) When there are changes that might change the copayment obligation (i.e., changes regarding fixed assets, liquid assets, expenses, income, or whether the veteran has a spouse or dependents residing in the community), the veteran must report those changes to a VA medical facility within 10 days of the change.

(f) *Veterans and care that are not subject to the copayment requirements.* The following veterans and care are not subject to the copayment requirements of this section:

(1) A veteran with a compensable service-connected disability,

(2) A veteran whose annual income (determined under 38 U.S.C. 1503) is less than the amount in effect under 38 U.S.C. 1521(b),

(3) Care for a veteran's noncompensable zero percent service-connected disability,

(4) An episode of extended care services that began on or before November 30, 1999,

(5) Care authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1710(e) for Vietnam-era herbicide-

exposed veterans, radiation-exposed veterans, Persian Gulf War veterans, or post-Persian Gulf War combat-exposed veterans,

(6) Care for treatment of sexual trauma as authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720D, or

(7) Care or services authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720E for certain veterans regarding cancer of the head or neck.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101(28), 501, 1701(7), 1710, 1720B, 1720D, 1722A)

(g) VA *Form 10-10EC*

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED CARE SERVICES			
GENERAL INFORMATION			
VETERAN'S NAME (Last, First, MI)			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
ANSWER YES OR NO WHERE APPLICABLE (OTHERWISE PROVIDE THE REQUESTED INFORMATION)			
ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID? ☐ YES ☐ NO		ARE YOU ENROLLED IN MEDICARE PART A (Hospital Insurance) ☐ YES ☐ NO	
ARE YOU ENROLLED IN MEDICARE PART B (Medical Insurance) ☐ YES ☐ NO		EFFECTIVE DATE (If "Yes")	
		MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER (If applicable)	
INSURANCE INFORMATION			
ARE YOU COVERED BY HEALTH INSURANCE (including coverage through a spouse)? (If "YES", provide the following information for all insurance company(s) providing coverage to you.) ☐ YES ☐ NO			
NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANY		ADDRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
		PHONE NUMBER OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
NAME OF POLICY HOLDER		RELATIONSHIP OF POLICY HOLDER	
		POLICY NUMBER	
		GROUP NAME AND/OR NUMBER	
NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANY		ADDRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
		PHONE NUMBER OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
NAME OF POLICY HOLDER		RELATIONSHIP OF POLICY HOLDER	
		POLICY NUMBER	
		GROUP NAME AND/OR NUMBER	
NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANY		ADDRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
		PHONE NUMBER OF INSURANCE COMPANY	
NAME OF POLICY HOLDER		RELATIONSHIP OF POLICY HOLDER	
		POLICY NUMBER	
		GROUP NAME AND/OR NUMBER	
SPOUSE/DEPENDENT INFORMATION			
To be counted as a dependent (other than spouse) the individual must have been counted as a dependent on the previous year's federal income tax and will meet the IRS dependent requirements for the coming year.			
SPOUSE'S NAME (Last, First, MI)			SPOUSE' SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
SPOUSE'S ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip Code)		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
		SPOUSE RESIDING IN THE COMMUNITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
DEPENDENT'S NAME (Last, First, MI)		DEPENDENT'S DATE OF BIRTH	
		SPOUSE' SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
DEPENDENT'S ADDRESS (If different than spouse) (Street, City, State, Zip Code)		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
		DEPENDENT RESIDING IN THE COMMUNITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
DEPENDENT'S NAME (Last, First, MI)		DEPENDENT'S DATE OF BIRTH	
		DEPENDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
DEPENDENT'S ADDRESS (If different than spouse) (Street, City, State, Zip Code)		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
		DEPENDENT RESIDING IN THE COMMUNITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
DEPENDENT'S NAME (Last, First, MI)		DEPENDENT'S DATE OF BIRTH	
		DEPENDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
DEPENDENT'S ADDRESS (If different than spouse) (Street, City, State, Zip Code)		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
		DEPENDENT RESIDING IN THE COMMUNITY? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
We need to collect information regarding income, assets and expenses for you and your spouse. If you do not wish to provide this information you must sign agreeing to make copayments and will be charged the maximum copayment amount for all services. See the last page, read, sign and date.			

FIXED ASSETS (VETERAN AND SPOUSE)		VALUE		
1. Residence (<i>Market value minus any outstanding mortgage or lien - exclude if veteran receiving on non-institutional services or spouse or dependent residing in community.</i>)		\$		
2. Other Residence (S) (<i>Market value of 2nd home, vacation residence, rental property etc., minus any outstanding mortgage or lien</i>)		\$		
3. Land (<i>Market value minus any outstanding mortgage or lien-if not included in value of residence</i>)		\$		
4. Vehicle(s)* (<i>Exclude vehicle if veteran receiving only non-institutional services or spouse or dependent residing in community.</i>) * (<i>Value minus any outstanding lien.</i>)		\$		
5. Farm and/or Ranch (<i>Market value minus any outstanding mortgage or lien</i>)		\$		
6. Other Fixed Assets (<i>Includes such items as stamp or coin collections, art work, collectibles minus amount owed; excludes burial plots, household furniture and other household goods, clothing, jewelry and personal items.</i>)		\$		
		\$		
LIQUID ASSETS (VETERAN AND SPOUSE)		VALUE		
1. Cash Balances (<i>Checking, savings, money market, etc.</i>)		\$		
2. Stocks, Mutual Funds, Bonds (<i>include 401k's, IRA's, Annuities</i>)		\$		
3. SEP'S (<i>Self-employed person</i>)		\$		
		\$		
SUM OF ALL LINES FIXED AND LIQUID ASSETS		TOTAL ASSETS		
		\$		
CATEGORY	VETERAN		SPOUSE	
	HOW MUCH	HOW OFTEN	HOW MUCH	HOW OFTEN
Gross income, including wages, cash gifts, bonuses and tips, severance pay, or other accrued benefits (including gross income from your farm, ranch, property or business.)	\$		\$	
Social Security Retirement/Disability	\$		\$	
Interest/Dividends, including tax exempt earnings	\$		\$	
Retirement and Pension income	\$		\$	
Civil Service Retirement	\$		\$	
U.S. Railroad Retirement	\$		\$	
VA Pension	\$		\$	
Spouse VA disability/compensation	\$		\$	
Unemployment Benefits/Compensation	\$		\$	
Other compensation, e.g. Workers Compensation and Black Lung	\$		\$	
Military Retirement	\$		\$	
Other Retirement	\$		\$	
Court Mandated (e.g. alimony, child support) (Veteran and spouse)	\$		\$	
Other Income	\$		\$	

EXPENSES	
ITEMS	AMOUNT
Education (veteran, spouse or dependent)	\$
Funeral and Burial	\$
Rent/Mortgage (Principle Residence only)	\$
Utilities	\$
Car Payment	\$
Food	\$
Non-reimbursed medical expenses	\$
Court-ordered payments	\$
Insurance (exclude life insurance)	\$
Taxes (on any amount include in gross income)	\$
Taxes (Property, personal)	\$
CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION I hereby authorize the department of Veterans Affairs to disclose any such history, diagnostic and treatment information from my medical records (including information relating to the diagnosis, treatment of other therapy for the conditions of substance abuse, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, sickle cell anemia, or treating for or infection with the human immunodeficiency virus) to the contractor of any health plan contract under which I am apparently eligible for medical care or payment of the expense of care or to any other party against whom liability is asserted. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time, except to the extent that action has already been taken in reliance on it. Without my express revocation, this consent will automatically expire when all action arising from VA's claim for reimbursement for my medical care has been completed. I authorize payment of medical benefits to VA for any services for which payment is accepted.	
SIGNATURE	DATE
CONSENT AND AGREEMENT TO MAKE COPAYMENTS Completion of this form with signature of the Veteran or veteran's representative is certification that the veteran/representative has received a copy of the Privacy Act Statement and agrees to make appropriate copayments. I certify the foregoing statement(s) are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and agree to make the applicable copayment for extended care services as required by law.	
SIGNATURE	DATE
OR I do not wish to provide my detailed financial information. I understand that I will be assessed the maximum copayment amount for extended care services and agree to pay the applicable VA copayment as required by law.	
SIGNATURE	DATE

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1710B)

[FR Doc. 01-24762 Filed 10-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-C