



In Case You Missed it

TRICARE® West Region e-Updates

February 2024

- 1. Check patient eligibility before providing service.** A new year can mean health care plan changes for your patients. Be sure to verify your TRICARE patients' eligibility, including TRICARE plan type, as it may have changed. You can check patient eligibility by logging in at www.tricare-west.com, using the self-service prompts at 1-844-866-WEST (9378), or submitting an electronic data interchange (EDI) transaction. Learn more about verifying eligibility through our [self-paced online training](#).
- 2. Tax hotline available for 1099 tax form questions.** HNFS would like to remind providers that 1099 tax forms were mailed out mid-January 2024. If you have not received your 1099 form, need a replacement form, or have questions, [please reach out to PGBA, LLC](#), our claims processing partner via email, fax, or the tax hotline.
- 3. Breast milk storage bag procedure code update.** Effective Jan. 1, 2024, HCPCS code K1005 was replaced with code A4287. When [filing claims for breast milk storage bags](#), be sure to use the appropriate code based on the date of service. As a reminder, HNFS will deny claims with the unlisted HCPCS code A9900 or A9999 and modifier XH when used for breast milk storage bags. **Note:** This does not pertain to other breast pump supplies.
- 4. Ninety-day dispensing available for blood glucose monitoring.** Continuous glucose monitoring systems (CGMS) allow ongoing, real-time monitoring and recording of blood glucose levels at set intervals, which can be helpful for diabetic patients who need to closely track their blood glucose levels. [To align with current practices for blood glucose monitoring supplies](#), retroactive to Jan. 1, 2024, TRICARE has changed the prescribing policy for CGMS supplies from 30-day dispensing to 90-day dispensing. **Note:** Any denials for 30-day supplies under the medical benefit will be revised to reflect 90-day supplies.
- 5. Prenatal screening update under the Laboratory Developed Test (LDT) Demonstration Project.** [Preconception and prenatal carrier screening tests](#) help identify individuals and families at risk for having children with genetic conditions associated with shortened life expectancy. Effective Feb. 12, 2024, and retroactive to Aug. 17, 2020, pre-authorization is not required for trisomy 13, 18, 21, X, and Y tests. To be covered, testing must comply with the most recent American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists guidelines.
- 6. Are you an applied behavior analysis (ABA) provider? Be sure to complete the required training.** Under its Autism Care Demonstration (ACD), TRICARE requires ABA providers to [complete an ACD training each year](#). HNFS assigns the training to ABA providers in the TRICARE West Region in January. Once assigned, you have 90 days to complete the training before being subject to claims penalties. Please review our recent article for [answers to frequently asked questions](#).
- 7. Register to attend a live webinar to learn more about TRICARE.** Are you a new TRICARE provider or just want to review some TRICARE basics? We've got you covered. Attend a live webinar presented by one of our TRICARE educators to learn details about TRICARE or how to submit pre-authorization and referral requests using CareAffiliate. To better track participation, we now require you to register for webinars in advance. View our [current schedule](#) today!
- 8. Learn more about submitting consult reports.** If you are treating a TRICARE patient who was referred by a military hospital or clinic, you will need to submit consultation documentation – also known as clear and legible reports (CLR) – to the referring provider within required time frames. We know that as a provider, you are busy, which is why we offer a [short self-paced course](#) for you to easily learn what you need to know about returning consult documentation to military hospitals and clinics. Check it out today.
- 9. February is American Heart Month.** Promote a healthy heart by recommending our recorded classes to your TRICARE patients. Our [Heart Healthy Living](#) class offers tips on reducing the risk of heart disease and how to improve heart health. The [Essentials of Diabetes Management](#) class focuses on the four cornerstones of diabetes self-management: medications, monitoring, meal planning, and movement.
- 10. Personalized coaching for your patients.** Do you have patients that could use help managing a chronic condition? Consider our chronic care/disease management programs. TRICARE beneficiaries under 65 and not on Medicare are eligible to participate in individualized coaching on anxiety, asthma, CAD, COPD, diabetes, depression, and heart failure. Coaching is provided by a disease management specialist, and you are kept informed of your patient's progress. Visit the [Chronic Care/Disease Management](#) provider page to nominate a patient today.