

Office of Community Care

The Children of Women Vietnam Veterans Health Care Benefits Program and Payment Methodology

What is the Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV) Health Care Benefits Program?

The CWVV Health Care Benefits Program is administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for children of women Vietnam Veterans born with certain birth defects (other than Spina Bifida, which is covered under VA's Spina Bifida Health Care Benefits Program). The CWVV Health Care Benefits Program is a federal fee-for-service pro¬gram (indemnity plan) that provides reimbursement for medical care-related conditions associated with certain covered birth defects.

Who is eligible for the CWVV Health Care Benefits Program?

Children of a biological mother who is a Vietnam Veteran conceived after the date on which the Veteran entered the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning Feb. 28, 1961, and ending May 7, 1975, and who have one of the covered birth defects. A covered birth defect is any birth defect identified by VA as one associated with the service of women Vietnam Veterans in the Republic of Vietnam and that has resulted in a permanent physical or mental disability for the Veteran's birth child. Eligibility must first be established for a monetary award by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) at the Denver VA Regional Office. Once the VBA makes a determination regarding entitlement, they provide that information to VHA and enrollment is automatic.

Who do I contact for eligibility and enrollment?

Contact the Denver VA Regional Office by phone at 303-914-2900 or fax at 303-914-5903 or send an email to <u>bdefects.vbaden@va.gov</u> for eligibility or enrollment information.

What does the CWVV Health Care Benefits Program pay?

There are no co-pays or deductibles for CWVV beneficiaries. CWVV pays 100% of the allowable amount and is the exclusive payer for covered medical services related to the awarded birth defect.

What is an allowable amount?

The allowable amount, or allowable charge, is the maximum amount VA will authorize for payment to a hospital, institutional provider, physician or other authorized individual professional or provider for covered medical services.

Does the provider have to accept the CWVV program allowable rate?

Yes. The VA-determined allowable amount for covered services constitutes payment in full. A provider may not bill the beneficiary for the difference between the billed amount and the VA-determined allowed amount. This practice is known as balance billing.

CWVV Health Care Benefits Program payment for services and equipment

Reimbursement will be based on CHAMPVA payment.

Is preauthorization required for services?

Preauthorization is required for the following (can only be approved if medically necessary):

- Attendants
- Day health care provided as outpatient care
- Dental services
- Durable medical equipment (in excess of \$2,000)
- Homemaker services (must be health-related services)
- Outpatient mental health services in excess of 23 visits in a calendar year
- Substance abuse treatment
- Training of family members, guardians and members of the child's household
- Transplantation services
- Travel in private automobiles at the general services administration rate (other than mileage for local travel)

How do I request preauthorization?

If preauthorization relates to a medical service or supply, your provider should submit the request. Requests may be made by mail or fax to the address listed under more information.

What rates does the CWVV Health Care Benefits Program use to determine payment for services?

The allowable amount for services, treatment and supplies is based on the same payment methodologies as the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) program.

How do I get more information about the CWVV Health Care Benefits Program?

Mail: VHA

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Children of Women Vietnam Veterans

P.O. Box 469065, Denver, CO 80246-9065

Phone: 800-733-8387, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m., Eastern Time

Fax: 303-331-7807

Email: Follow the directions for submitting email via IRIS

Website: <u>https://www.va.gov/communitycare/programs/</u> dependents/cwvv/index.asp

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration Office of Community Care