



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

JUL 30 2001

FROM: AFMOA/CC
110 Luke Avenue, Room 405
Bolling AFB DC 20332-7050

SUBJECT: Policy on Air Force High Dollar Drug Program

This letter clarifies and updates the procedures to be used for managing and using the Air Force High Dollar Drug Program (HDDP) at Wright-Patterson AFB pending publication of an Interim Change to AFI 44-102, Community Health Management. MTFs can obtain medication to treat conditions such as immunodeficiency diseases, transplants, and other rare conditions through the HDDP at Wright-Patterson AFB.

This program is intended to offset the impact of high-cost treatment regimens not normally reflected in a small MTF's resource baseline and to centralize the purchase of low volume-high cost or hard to obtain medications to decrease duplication and waste. MTFs must not remove medication from their formulary simply due to its availability through the HDDP. Large MTFs and Medical Centers will use this program primarily for obtaining medications with restricted distribution. The program will be centrally funded.

The HDDP procedures and formulary will be managed by the Air Force Pharmacy Advisory Board; composed of the Pharmacy Consultant to the AF/SG, MAJCOM Pharmacy Consultants and Medical Center Pharmacy Flight Commanders/Squadron Commanders. Members of the Advisory Board should consult with their respective commanders when considering program procedural or formulary changes. Operating procedures will be reviewed annually and the HDDP formulary quarterly for modifications.

Selection of medication to be included on the HDDP formulary will be based on availability (manufacturer restrictions or required registration), significant cost, clinical outcomes, and the needs of all MTFs. Newly marketed medications considered quarterly for addition to the NMOP by the DoD Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee would also be considered for addition to the HDDP formulary. Medication considered a routine standard of treatment for a significant portion of the beneficiary population should not be considered for HDDP formulary addition.

The 74th Medical Group will provide local oversight and supervision of the program. The HDDP will ensure all MTFs complete the program worksheet and all required information has been submitted. A profile will be established for the patient and the order processed the same day, if possible. Overseas shipments are coordinated at the time of departure with destination base customs clearance officer to ensure that the arrival is anticipated and the parcel clearance is expedited. Overseas shipments generally take 72 hours. Program personnel will track parcels as necessary. Program expenditures and usage of medication by facility will be tracked and reported to the Advisory Board quarterly.

All patients eligible for care in Air Force MTFs are eligible for this program if all other criteria are met. Patients must maintain medical records and receive routine medical care at the requesting facility. A specialist in the appropriate field must provide the diagnosis and treatment plan.

MTFs utilizing the HDDP will submit the program worksheet with all required information. MTFs are responsible for determining the clinical necessity of the requested medication using non-formulary request guidelines and ensuring an equivalent local formulary medication is not available. MTF pharmacies will appropriately enter the medication into CHCS including the cost. Prescriptions will be entered into the patient's CHCS profile and screened for interactions, allergies and therapeutic overlaps. Upon dispensing the medication, pharmacies will counsel the patient and provide appropriate written medication information to the patient. HDDP medications will be stored separately within the pharmacy. Any medication not dispensed will be returned to the HDDP. The MTF will track HDDP medication by the number and total cost of prescriptions dispensed.

Third party information will be collected by MTFs for all patients receiving medication through the HDDP. When other health insurance with prescription coverage is available, MTFs must ensure appropriate billing and collection.

If you have any further questions on this matter, my point of contact is Lieutenant Colonel Kevin P. Mulligan, Chief Consultant for Ancillary Services, DSN 297-4061 or kevin.mulligan@usafsg.bolling.af.mil.



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