

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
1 JARRETT WHITE ROAD
TRIPLER AMC, HI 96859-5000

TAMC Regulation
No. 40-73

22 December 2009

Medical Services
PACIFIC ISLAND HEALTH CARE PROGRAM (PIHCP)

1. **PURPOSE:** To establish policies, procedures and responsibilities for health care administration of patients referred from the U. S. Associated Pacific Islands (USAPI) to Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC).

2. **REFERENCE:**

a. AR 40-3, Medical, Dental, and Veterinary Care.

b. Compact of Free Association, approved 14 January 1986, and amended in 2003. The Compact is codified at 48 USC § 1905.

3. **GOALS:**

a. To expeditiously provide quality health care to patients from the USAPI and return them home as soon as possible.

b. To support TAMC's GME programs.

c. To ensure fiscal oversight and responsibility.

4. **BACKGROUND:** The PIHCP has been in existence since 1989 for the purpose of providing GME experience as well as humanitarian care to the undeserved indigenous peoples of the USAPI.

5. **DEFINITIONS:**

a. Pacific Island Health Care Project (PIHCP). A federally funded project that benefits GME at TAMC and provides humanitarian medical care to medically underserved Pacific Islanders. Patient acceptance into the project is based on medical need, a referral from the island, and the capability of caring for the patient at TAMC. The patient must provide unique GME opportunities. As part of Defense Appropriations, Congress has for many years appropriated operation and maintenance Armed Forces funds (10 USC § 410, Sec. 8009) for the benefit of graduate medical education programs at Army medical facilities in Hawaii (Tripler Army Medical Center [TAMC]) for the provision of medical services and transportation to such facilities on a non-reimbursable basis for civilian (indigenous) patients from American Samoa,

*This regulation supersedes TAMC Reg 40-73, 23 September 2007.

(2) Ensures fiscal viability by operating the PIHCP within available funding.

(3) Provides direction and information to Medical Attachés on a periodic basis.

(4) Ensures systems are capable of providing reports to Congress, US Army Medical Command (MEDCOM), TAMC Commander, or others as needed.

(5) Provides program fiscal status to the Command as requested.

c. Project Assistant.

(1) Processes PIHCP referrals ensuring proper documentation for transportation of Pacific Islanders.

(2) Updates patient Composite Health Care System (CHCS) records upon acceptance, discharge, and/or completion of treatment

(3) Issues registration numbers for referrals submitted on the Internet based PIHCP web page that are accepted by the PIHCP Medical Director.

(4) Ensures that the Medical Attachés coordinate transportation from Honolulu International Airport to TAMC, including: ambulance service, passport information, medical escort, and lodging.

(5) Provides information and guidance to Medical Attachés on a periodic basis.

d. Outpatient Records Branch (OPRB) – Patient Administration (PAD). The OPRB insures that outpatient records are established and maintained for registered patients from USAPI.

e. Resource Management Division (RMD).

(1) Works with the Program Manager to evaluate and control costs associated with the PIHCP.

(2) The Program and Budget Branch ensures financial systems are capable of providing financial reports of benefit to Congress, MEDCOM, TAMC Commander, or others as needed.

f. Information Management Division (IMD).

(1) Supports and assists the Medical Director in the technical management of the Pacific Island Health Care Project website and databases.

(2) Provides the Medical Director support with the development of presentations, briefings, medical papers, and technical reports to Congress, MEDCOM, TAMC Commander, and others.

The proponent agency for this regulation is the Patient and Business Services, Patient Administration Division. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) to Commander, Tripler Army Medical Center, ATTN: MCHK-PAT, 1 Jarrett White Road, Tripler AMC, Hawaii 96859-5000.

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