



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-1200

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HEALTH AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Medical Care Costs for Civilian Employees Deployed in Support of Contingency Operations

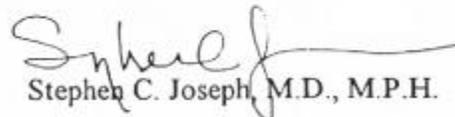
The purpose of this memorandum is to establish a uniform policy for the Department regarding reimbursement for medical care to forward deployed civilian employees and contractual services employees providing support for contingency operations.

Federal civilian employees and contractual personnel are increasingly being deployed for contingency operations. Policy related to the reimbursement of medical care to these individuals to date has been limited to that contained in the Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 1404.10, *Emergency-Essential (E-E) DoD U. S. Citizen Civilian Employees*, which states the following:

E-E employees who require treatment for disease or injury sustained overseas during hostilities may be provided care at no cost to the employee under the DoD Military Health Services System. The scope of care provided shall be equivalent to that received by active duty military personnel. If feasible, the Military Department providing treatment shall seek reimbursement from third-party payers.

As forward deployed field medical units are neither organized nor equipped to process billings or receive payments for medical services rendered, seeking reimbursement from the civilian or contractor employees or third party payers is not considered practicable or cost effective. However, where a civilian or contractor employee is evacuated for medical reasons from the contingency area of operations to a medical treatment facility (MTF) funded by the Defense Health Program (DHP), normal reimbursement policies would apply for services rendered by that facility. This would include instances where the MTF is out of the area of operations but still in the same theater. Civilian employees injured on the job are treated without reimbursement in all cases.

My point of contact for this issue is Mr. Jimmy A. Norris, (703) 614-3242.

  
Stephen C. Joseph, M.D., M.P.H.