



DEFENSE
HEALTH AGENCY

HPOB

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CHANGE 190
6010.56-M
AUGUST 1, 2016

**PUBLICATIONS SYSTEM CHANGE TRANSMITTAL FOR
TRICARE OPERATIONS MANUAL (TOM), FEBRUARY 2008**

The Defense Health Agency has authorized the following addition(s)/revision(s).

CHANGE TITLE: MILITARY TREATMENT FACILITY DIRECTED REFERRALS UPDATE

CONREQ: 17989

PAGE CHANGE(S): See page 2.

SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S): TRICARE Operations Manual Change 170, published on 17 Feb 2016 introduced a policy change for Military Treatment Facility (MTF) directed referrals of greater than 100 miles to non-network providers be coordinated with the TRICARE Regional Offices (TROs) prior to submitting to the Managed Care Support Contractors (MCSCs). The intent of the policy was for referrals where treatment or surgical procedure or inpatient admission was expected to require justification from the MTF and coordination. It was not intended for the TROs to absorb all routine directed referrals nor to take on MCSC's functions of benefit and medical necessity reviews. The TROs have been overwhelmed into reviewing over 100 referrals a week as an unintended consequence of the policy change. This change will further narrow the MTF Directed Referrals that should be coordinated with the TRO and will also assure that the MCSC perform their required functions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2016.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 1, 2016.

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WHEN PRESCRIBED ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN, FILE THIS TRANSMITTAL WITH BASIC DOCUMENT.

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REMOVE PAGE(S)

CHAPTER 8

Section 5, pages 7 and 8

INSERT PAGE(S)

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