



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
HEALTH AFFAIRS

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TRICARE  
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

MB&RS

CHANGE 48  
6010.54-M  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2006

PUBLICATIONS SYSTEM CHANGE TRANSMITTAL  
FOR  
TRICARE POLICY MANUAL (TPM)

The TRICARE Management Activity has authorized the following addition(s)/  
revision(s) to the 6010.54-M, issued August 2002.

**CHANGE TITLE:** EVOLVING PRACTICES

**PAGE CHANGE(S):** See page 2.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S):** See Summary of Changes on page 3.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** As stated or upon direction of the Contracting Officer.

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Upon direction of the Contracting Officer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reta Michak".

Reta Michak  
Chief, Office of Medical Benefits  
and Reimbursement Systems

ATTACHMENT(S): 5 PAGE(S)  
DISTRIBUTION: 6010.54-M

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**CHANGE 48**  
**6010.54-M**  
**SEPTEMBER 8, 2006**

**REMOVE PAGE(S)**

**CHAPTER 4**

Section 6.1, pages 1 and 2

Section 13.1, page 1

Section 13.2, pages 1 and 2

**INSERT PAGE(S)**

Section 6.1, pages 1 and 2

Section 13.1, page 1

Section 13.2, pages 1 and 2

## SUMMARY OF CHANGES

### CHAPTER 4

1. Section 6.1 (Musculoskeletal System). This change adds a coverage exclusion for percutaneous kyphoplasty for treatment of vertebral fractures and artificial intervertebral disc replacement because these procedures are unproven.
2. Section 13.1 (Digestive System). This change adds a cross-reference to Chapter 4, Section 13.2 for policy guidance on bariatric procedures.
3. Section 13.2 (Surgery For Morbid Obesity). This change removes the coverage exclusion for laparoscopic gastric bypass, gastric stapling and vertical banded gastroplasty as these procedures are now medically proven.

