

## **New TRICARE Access Standards for Primary Care**

If you are a non-active duty TRICARE beneficiary using TRICARE Prime, a military treatment facility (MTF) may be your first choice when it comes to where you and your family receive health care. Assignment of a primary care manager (PCM) at an MTF is determined by provider availability and the MTF's policy for the TRICARE Prime Service Area.

TRICARE has access standards in place to help ensure you receive timely health care. *The drive-time access standard states that your PCM should not be located more than 30 minutes' drive time from your home address.*

If you are a non-active duty beneficiary in the 50 United States and you live more than 30 minutes' travel time from the MTF where you want to enroll, you must waive TRICARE's access standards using one of the following options:

- Enroll through the Beneficiary Web Enrollment Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/> , which confirms that you waive your access standards.
- Submit a DD Form 2876 TRICARE Prime Enrollment Application and PCM Change Form and sign sections V and VI.

If you live more than 30 minutes but less than 100 miles from the Naval Health Clinic Annapolis (NHCA), your waiver request must be approved by the Commanding Officer of NHCA. The NHCA will not approve any waivers for those living 100 miles or more from the MTF.

If your waiver is approved, it remains in effect through your annual enrollment period and if you don't change your residence. Since an MTF's provider availability can change over time, the MTF may not always renew your waiver at the end of your enrollment period. If this happens, your regional contractor Health Net Federal Services (HNFS) will notify you at least two months before your enrollment expires.

If you need clarification or have questions regarding this policy, please contact Mr. Ray Wiles, Health Benefits Advisor @ (410) 293-2276.