



When You Turn 65: TRICARE for Life

As part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2000, you now have TRICARE as a second payor to Medicare for health benefits. This new program became effective October 1, 2001. When you are one month from turning 65, you should do the following two things:

- **Register with Social Security for Medicare Part A and B**
You must be eligible for Medicare Part A and be enrolled in Medicare Part B to qualify for the TRICARE for Life benefits. Contact your local Social Security Administration office, or call **1-800-772-1213** at least 3 months prior to your 65th birthday.
- **Update your DEERS record**
Medicare and DEERS work together, and if the information on one record is different from the other, your health benefits may be denied. Contact your local Personnel Support Activity, or call **1-800-538-9552**. You will need to take your Medicare card to the ID Card section of Personnel Support Activity Detachment (PSD) 30 days prior to your 65th birthday in order to update DEERS

TRICARE for Life will be the secondary payor for your health benefit claims. After Medicare pays its portion of the allowable amount of the claim, TRICARE for Life will pay the rest of the allowable amount.

For more information, call the TRICARE Service Center at 1-800-444-5445, or the Health Benefits Office at 505-6709/6916.