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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Canada Service Veterans under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 17.1, 18, 22, 22.1, 27, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 On April 1, 1989, eligibility for the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) was extended to those who served in Canada as members of the Canadian Armed Forces for at least 365 days during World War I or World War II. As a pre-requisite, such persons must also be at least 65 years old and in financial need, as determined on the basis of whether they could qualify as recipients or "near recipients" under the *War Veterans Allowance Act*.
- 4.2 Under the VHC Regulations, a Canada Service Veteran is defined as:
- a) a veteran<sup>1</sup> who served on full-time active service, other than service in a theatre of actual war<sup>1</sup> as a member of the Canadian forces or similar forces raised in Newfoundland; or
  - b) a Canadian merchant mariner<sup>1</sup>, other than a merchant navy veteran, who served
    - i) for a minimum of 365 days during any of the following periods, namely,

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<sup>1</sup>See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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- (A) the period beginning on August 4, 1914 and ending on August 31, 1921, and
- (B) the period beginning on September 1, 1939 and ending on August 15, 1945.

Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.3 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are eligible to receive home care, ambulatory health care, or intermediate care under the VIP;
  - b) they have been authorized to continue receiving adult residential care in a community facility<sup>2</sup>; or
  - c) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

Supplementary Benefits

- 4.4 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.5 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.

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<sup>2</sup>Adult residential care (ARC) was provided as a VIP element until June 30, 1993. Those individuals who were already approved for ARC when it was terminated, effective July 1, 1993, were grandfathered.

<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Canada Service Veteran, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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- 4.6 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive the cost of the premium or fee that is required to be paid in relation to:
- a) the insured health services of the province in which they are resident; or
  - b) municipal or provincial benefits, services or care similar to the benefits, service or care described in the VHC Regulations.

4.7 Canada Service Veterans who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.

4.8 When critically-ill Canada Service Veterans are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

Veterans Independence Program

- 4.9 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive all VIP services to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.10 Individuals who meet the service and age requirements of Canada Service Veterans, but do not meet the income requirements, are eligible to receive all VIP services<sup>4</sup> to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they have exceptional health needs<sup>5</sup>;

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<sup>4</sup>Clients eligible under exceptional health needs are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of their VIP services. Those receiving intermediate care are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

<sup>5</sup>Exceptional health needs - see VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary

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- c) they have insufficient income to enable them to pay for those services or that care; and
- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.

### Long-term Care

- 4.11 Canada Service Veterans are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.
- 4.12 Individuals who meet the service and age requirements to qualify as a Canada Service Veteran, but would only meet income criteria because the cost of care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor, are eligible to receive chronic care in a community facility<sup>6</sup>, other than a contract bed, to the extent that the chronic care is not available to them as insured service under a provincial health care system, if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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<sup>6</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Civilian Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

21. *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13, 15, 17.1, 22, 22.1, 28, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Civilian Pensioner is defined as a person who is entitled to a pension<sup>1</sup> under:
- a) Parts I to III or VI to X of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act*, namely:
    - i) Canadian salt water fishers;
    - ii) Auxiliary Services Personnel, including the Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit;
    - iii) Corps of (Civilian) Canadian Fire Fighters;
    - iv) Air raid precautions workers;
    - v) Members of the Voluntary Aid Detachment;
    - vi) Overseas welfare workers;
    - vii) Civilian members of Ferry Command; or;
  - b) the *Civilian Government Employee (War) Compensation Order*.

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<sup>1</sup>See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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#### Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition.
- 4.3 Civilian Pensioners who are hospitalized and asserts that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

#### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are medium<sup>2</sup> or seriously<sup>3</sup> disabled;
  - b) they are eligible to receive VIP home care, ambulatory health care, or intermediate care in response to a need arising from their war-related pensioned condition;
  - c) they are in receipt of VIP services as 'frail'<sup>4</sup>;
  - d) they have been authorized to continue receiving adult residential care in a community facility<sup>5</sup>; or
  - e) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor.

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<sup>2</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 48% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as medium disabled).

<sup>3</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as seriously disabled).

<sup>4</sup>Refer to Frail Policy.

<sup>5</sup>Adult residential care (ARC) was provided as a VIP element until June 30, 1993. Those individuals who were already approved for ARC when it was terminated, effective July 1, 1993, were grandfathered.

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.5 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>6</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Treatment Allowances

- 4.6 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>7</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.7 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.8 Civilian Pensioners whose pensioned condition is blindness, or another disability that requires an escort when traveling, may have the cost of commercial transportation (other than by automobile) paid for an escort when on annual vacation or other authorized travel within Canada.
- 4.9 Civilian Pensioners who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the VIP or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.10 When critically-ill Civilian Pensioners are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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<sup>6</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Civilian Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>7</sup>See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.11 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that their war-related pensioned condition impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services, and the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.12 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they are medium or seriously disabled; and,
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.13 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they meet the criteria of 'frail'; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

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### Long-term Care

Civilian Pensioners are eligible for the following long-term care benefits if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

- 4.14 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care, in respect of a war-related pensioned condition if the care is:
- a) received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed; and
  - b) received in a health care facility, outside Canada, that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received.
- 4.15 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are medium or seriously disabled.
- 4.16 Civilian Pensioners are eligible to receive chronic care in Canada in a community facility<sup>8</sup>, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor.

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<sup>8</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Civilians under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 22.1, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a civilian<sup>1</sup> has the meaning set out in subsection 56(1) of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act*.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Civilians are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Civilians are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,

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<sup>1</sup>See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for Civilians, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Civilians are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.5 Civilians who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if eligible to receive any part of the cost of chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.6 When critically-ill civilians are in receipt of chronic care and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

#### Long-term Care

- 4.7 Civilians are eligible to receive chronic care in Canada in a community facility<sup>3</sup>, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
  - b) the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor; and
  - c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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<sup>3</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations) for those individuals who have received a Detention Benefit.

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 15, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 For purposes of health care benefits under the VHC Regulations, individuals who have received a Detention Benefit<sup>1</sup>, are recognized as members or Veterans who have received a detention benefit under Part 3 of the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Detention Benefit recipients are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are eligible to receive Veterans Independence Program (VIP) services of home care, ambulatory care, or intermediate care.

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<sup>1</sup>Payment for time spent in detention which includes the period during which the member or Veterans was engaged in evading capture by, or in escaping from, any power (an enemy or an opposing force of Canada; a person or group that has as one of its purposes or activities the facilitating or carrying out of a terrorist activity; and any prescribed entity).

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Detention Benefit recipients are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Detention Benefit recipients who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under VIP.
- 4.5 When critically-ill Detention Benefits recipients are in receipt of intermediate care under VIP and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.6 Detention Benefits recipients are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that the services or that care is not available as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they are totally disabled<sup>3</sup>, whether by reason of military service or not; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain in their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

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<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for individuals who have received a Detention Benefit, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>3</sup>Totally disabled as described in VPPM Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are Entitled to a Disability Award in respect of Special Duty Service under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 15, 19, 22, 28, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, “entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service” means that the injury or disease, or aggravation thereof, for which the member or former member is entitled to a disability award<sup>1</sup>, was attributable to or was incurred during special duty service as that term is defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*.

### Treatment Benefits (Disability Award)

- 4.2 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty services are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a disability for which they are entitled to a disability award, to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces.

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<sup>1</sup>Entitled to a disability award means the member/former member:

a) has, or but for subsection 54(1) would have received a disability award under subsection 45(1) or 47(1) of the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*; or,  
b) is waiting for the Minister to determine that the disability has stabilized pursuant to section 53 of that Act.

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### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.3 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty services are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada, in respect of any health condition to the extent that the treatment benefits are:
- a) not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces;
  - b) not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - c) if they are eligible to receive VIP home care, ambulatory health care, or intermediate care in response to a need arising from a disability award related to their Special Duty Service.
- 4.4 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty services are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada, in respect of any health condition to the extent that the treatment benefits are:
- a) not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces;
  - b) not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - c) if they are in receipt of VIP services as 'frail'<sup>2</sup>.

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.5 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

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<sup>2</sup>Refer to Frail Policy.

<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a member or former member who is entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.6 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of a special duty service and the disability is blindness, or another disability that requires an escort when traveling, may have the cost of commercial transportation (other than by automobile) paid for an escort when on annual vacation or other authorized travel within Canada.
- 4.7 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of a special duty service who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.8 When critically-ill members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of a special duty service are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.9 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
  - b) they are resident in Canada;
  - c) an assessment indicates that the disability for which they are entitled to a disability award, impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services; and
  - d) the provision of the services would assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or the provision of the care is necessary for health reasons.

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4.10 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:

- a) the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
- b) they are resident in Canada;
- c) they meet the criteria of 'frail'; and
- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

#### Long-term Care

4.11 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award in respect of special duty service are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in respect of a disability for which they are entitled to a disability award, if:

- a) the care is received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed;
- b) the care is received in a health care facility outside Canada that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received; and
- c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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Sub-section Entitled to a Disability Award (Regular and Reserve Force Services)		2010 - 03	1 of 3

## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are Entitled to a Disability Award under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 15, 22, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations “entitled to a disability award” means a member or former member who:
- a) has received a disability award under subsection 45(1) or 47(1) of the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*;
  - b) is waiting for the Minister to determine that their disability has stabilized pursuant to section 53 of that Act; or
  - c) but for subsection 54(1)<sup>1</sup> of that Act, would have received a disability award under subsection 45(1) or 47(1) of that Act.

### Treatment Benefits (Disability Award)

- 4.2 Members or former members who are no longer members of the Canadian Forces, or who are members of the Canadian Forces as members of the reserve Force are eligible to receive treatment benefits, in Canada or elsewhere, in respect of the injury or disease for which they are entitled to a disability award, to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces.

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<sup>1</sup>If the aggregate of all the disabilities assessments exceeds 100%, no disability award shall be granted in respect of any percentage points exceeding 100%.

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.5 When critically-ill members or former members who are entitled to a disability award are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.6 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility other than a contract bed if the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the disability for which they are entitled to a disability award, impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services, and the provision of the services would assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence; or
  - c) the provision of the care is necessary for health reasons.

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<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a member or former member who is entitled to a disability award, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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- 4.7 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
  - b) they are resident in Canada;
  - c) they meet the criteria of 'frail'<sup>3</sup>; and
  - d) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

#### Long-term Care

- 4.8 Members or former members who are entitled to a disability award are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in respect of a disability for which they are entitled to a disability award, if:
- a) the care is received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed;
  - b) the care is received in a health care facility outside Canada that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received; and
  - c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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<sup>3</sup>Refer to the Frail Policy.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Flying Accident Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Flying Accident Pensioner means a person entitled to a pension<sup>1</sup> that is compensation under the *Flying Accidents Compensation Regulations* for an injury sustained by the person.

### Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Flying Accident Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition.
- 4.3 Flying Accident Pensioners who are hospitalized and assert that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

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<sup>1</sup>Entitled to a pension means the person receives a pension, has received a final payment of a pension or has been declared eligible for a pension.

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#### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Flying Accident Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, or as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are seriously disabled<sup>2</sup>.

#### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.5 Flying Accident Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, and home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Treatment Allowances

- 4.6 Flying Accident Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>4</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.7 Flying Accident Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.

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<sup>2</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as seriously disabled).

<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Flying Accident Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>4</sup>Treatment allowance payments are the difference between the client's usual rate of pension and the 100% disability pension rate applicable to the client.

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- 4.8 When critically-ill Flying Accident Pensioners are in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Income-qualified Civilians under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 22, 27, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, an Income-qualified Civilian means a civilian<sup>1</sup> who is in receipt of an allowance under subsection 57(1) of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act* or in respect of whom a determination has been made that the Civilian would be eligible for such an allowance if the Civilian or their spouse/common-law partner were not in receipt of, or eligible to receive, payments under the *Old Age Security Act* or similar legislation of another country.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Income-qualified Civilians are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada if they are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system.

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Income-qualified Civilians are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:

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<sup>1</sup>a civilian as described in subsection 56(1) of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act*.

<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for an Income-qualified Civilian, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Income-qualified Civilians are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.5 Income-qualified Civilians are eligible to receive the cost of the premium or fee that is required to be paid in relation to:
  - a) the insured health services of the province in which they are resident; or
  - b) municipal or provincial benefits, services or care similar to the benefits, service or care described in the VHC Regulations.
- 4.6 Income-qualified Civilians who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.7 When critically-ill Income-qualified Civilians are in receipt of chronic care under the long term care program and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

#### Long-term Care

- 4.8 Income-qualified Civilians are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
  - a) the care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, and
  - b) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 22, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, an Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilian means an overseas service civilian<sup>1</sup> who is an income-qualified civilian<sup>2</sup>.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada, if the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system.

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<sup>1</sup> means a civilian described in paragraph (e), (f), (g), (h), or (i) of the definition "civilian" in subsection 56(1) of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act*.

<sup>2</sup> means a civilian who is in receipt of an allowance under subsection 57(1) of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act* or in respect of whom a determination has been made that the Civilian would be eligible for such an allowance if the Civilian or their spouse/common-law partner were not in receipt of, or eligible to receive, payments under the *Old Age Security Act* or similar legislation of another country.

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Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians			

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if:
- a) they are eligible to receive care in a departmental facility or contract bed, or
  - b) they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.5 When critically-ill Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.6 Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians (who are 65 years of age or more) are eligible to receive all VIP services to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.

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<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for an Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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### Long-term Care

- 4.7 Income-qualified Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, and
  - b) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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Income-qualified Veterans			

## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Income-qualified Veterans under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 21, 22, 27, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, an Income-qualified Veteran means a Veteran<sup>1</sup> who is in receipt of an allowance under the *War Veterans Allowance Act* or in respect of whom a determination has been made that the Veteran would be eligible for such an allowance if the Veteran or their spouse/common-law partner were not in receipt of, or eligible to receive, payments under the *Old Age Security Act* or similar legislation of another country.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada if they are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system.

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:

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<sup>1</sup>As described in any of paragraphs (a) to (g) of the definition "Veteran" in the VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for an Income-qualified Veteran, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable

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- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.5 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive the cost of the premium or fee that is required to be paid in relation to:
- a) the insured health services of the province in which they are resident; or
  - b) municipal or provincial benefits, services or care similar to the benefits, services or care described in the VHC Regulations.
- 4.6 Income-qualified Veterans who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if:
- a) they are eligible to receive care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or
  - b) they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.7 When critically-ill Income-qualified Veterans are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

#### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.8 Income-qualified Veterans (who are 65 years of age or more) are eligible to receive all VIP services to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.

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### Long-term Care

Income-qualified Veterans are eligible for the following long term care benefits if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

- 4.9 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed.
- 4.10 Income-qualified Veterans are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if the care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those Veteran Pensioners<sup>1</sup> or Civilian Pensioners<sup>2</sup> who are recognized as “medium disabled” under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 15, 22 and 33.1.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 “Medium disabled” is the term used to describe those Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners whose extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all of their disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act* is equal to or greater than 48%.
- 4.2 Effective November 6, 2003, the VHC Regulations were amended to provide access to health care benefits to those Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners whose extent of disability is equal to or greater than 48%. Health care benefit access for these clients is based on need; not a requirement that the need be related to a pensioned condition.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.3 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Medium Disabled” are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, to the extent that the treatment benefits are neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system.

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<sup>1</sup>a Veteran who is entitled to a pension for a war-related pensioned condition.

<sup>2</sup>a person who is entitled to a pension under Parts I to III or VI to X of the *Civilian War-related Benefits Act*, or the *Civilian Government Employees (War) Compensation Order*.

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.4 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Medium Disabled” are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.5 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Medium Disabled” are eligible to receive the services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

### Long-term Care (Any Health Condition)

- 4.6 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Medium Disabled” are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system.

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<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Veteran Pensioner or a Civilian Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Military Service Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13, 15, 22, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Military Service Pensioner is defined as a person who is entitled to a pension<sup>1</sup> under the *Pension Act* for a disability related to military service that was not:

- a) active service in World War I or World War II;
- b) service in a theatre of operations, as that expression is defined in section 2 of the *Veterans Benefit Act*; or
- c) special duty service, as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Pension Act*.

### Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Military Service Pensioners who are no longer members of the Canadian Forces, or who are members of the Canadian Forces as members of the reserve force, are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces.

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<sup>1</sup>Entitled to a pension means the person receives a pension, has received a final payment of a pension or has been declared eligible for a pension.

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- 4.3 A Military Service Pensioner who is hospitalized and asserts that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

#### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.4 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Treatment Allowances

- 4.5 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>3</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.6 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.7 Military Service Pensioners who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.8 When critically-ill Military Service Pensioners are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Military Service Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>3</sup>Treatment allowance payments are the difference between the client's usual rate of pension and the 100% disability pension rate applicable to the client.

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### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.9 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system or as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that their pensioned condition impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services, and the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.10 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they meet the criteria of 'frail'<sup>4</sup>; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

### Long-term Care

- 4.11 Military Service Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care, in respect of a pensioned condition, if:
- a) the care is received in Canada, in a community facility, other than a contract bed;
  - b) the care is received in a health care facility, outside Canada, that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received; and
  - c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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<sup>4</sup>Refer to Frail Policy.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Newfoundland Special Award Pensioner means a person who was not entitled to a pension in accordance with the terms of the union of Canada and Newfoundland but was recognized by the Canadian government as entitled to the continuation of an award paid before that union in respect of a disability incurred during service in World War I or World War II.

### Treatment Benefits (Disability Award)

- 4.2 Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of the disability for which they receive the award.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.3 Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, or as insured services under a provincial health care system; and

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- b) they are seriously disabled<sup>1</sup>.

#### Supplementary Benefits

4.4 Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:

- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.5 Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.6 When critically-ill Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners are in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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<sup>1</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as seriously disabled).

<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Newfoundland Special Award Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Overseas Service Civilians under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

21. *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 18, 22.1, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, an Overseas Service Civilian is defined as:
- a) a person who served in a theatre of actual war<sup>1</sup> during World War II as a member of the Corps of (Civilian) Canadian Fire Fighters for Service in the United Kingdom<sup>2</sup>,
  - b) a person who
    - i) served in a theatre of actual war during World War II as an overseas welfare worker<sup>3</sup>; or,
    - ii) served outside Canada during the Korean War in a capacity similar to paragraph i) above;

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<sup>1</sup>Theatre of actual war, as described in section 37 of the *War Veterans Allowance Act*.

<sup>2</sup>These individuals served in the United Kingdom assisting the National Fire Service combat fires caused by enemy air raids and bombing.

<sup>3</sup>These individuals served, under the auspices of the Canadian Red Cross Society or the St. John Ambulance Brigade of Canada, as welfare workers, nursing aids, ambulance or transport drivers, members of the Overseas Headquarters Staff, or in any other capacity; or were selected by the Canadian Red Cross Society and served with the Scottish Ministry of Health as orthopaedic nurses or surgeons.

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- c) a person who served in a theatre of actual war during World War II as a civilian member of Ferry Command<sup>4</sup>;
- d) a person who served in a theatre of actual war during World War II as a member of the Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit<sup>5</sup>;
- e) a person who served in a theatre of actual war during World War I as a Canadian member of the Voluntary Aid Detachment<sup>6</sup> of the British Red Cross.

Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

4.2 Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:

- a) the benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
- b) they are eligible to receive home care, ambulatory health care or intermediate care services under the Veterans Independence Program (VIP);
- c) they are in receipt of VIP services due to exceptional health needs<sup>7</sup>; or
- d) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

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<sup>4</sup>These individuals were employed by the Air Ministry of the United Kingdom, and served as air crew with Number 45 Wing of the Royal Air Force Transport Command, Number 45 Group of the Royal Air Force Ferry Command or the Atlantic Ferrying Organization.

<sup>5</sup>These individuals were engaged in cutting pit props for coal production in the United Kingdom, an activity considered vital to the war economy.

<sup>6</sup>These individuals were selected by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and sent to the United Kingdom to assist the Voluntary Aid Detachments of the British Red Cross.

<sup>7</sup>Exceptional health needs - VPPM Vol 2, Definition Glossary.

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>8</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.5 Overseas Service Civilians who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the VIP or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.6 When critically-ill Overseas Service Civilians are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.7 Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive all VIP services<sup>9</sup> to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they have exceptional health needs;
  - c) they have insufficient income to enable them to pay for those services or that care;

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<sup>8</sup>i.e., cost of travel for an Overseas Service Civilian, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>9</sup>Clients eligible under exceptional health needs are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of their VIP services. Those receiving intermediate care are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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and

- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of the VIP services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

#### Long-term Care

4.8 Overseas Service Civilians are eligible to receive chronic care in Canada in a community facility<sup>10</sup>, other than a contract bed, if:

- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
- b) the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor;  
and
- c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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<sup>10</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Overseas Service Veterans under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 17.1, 18, 21, 22.1, 29 and 30

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 For the purpose of qualifying for treatment benefits and long-term care, an Overseas Service Veteran is defined in the VHC Regulations as:
- a) a Veteran<sup>1</sup> who, before April 1, 1946, served during World War I or World War II in a theatre of actual war<sup>2</sup>; or,
  - b) a Merchant Navy Veteran<sup>1</sup> of World War I or World War II.
- 4.2 For the purpose of qualifying for Veterans Independence Program (VIP) benefits, an Overseas Service Veteran is defined in the VHC Regulations as:
- a) a veteran who served in a theatre of actual war during:
    - i) World War I – specifically from August 4, 1914, to August 31, 1921; or,
    - ii) World War II – specifically from September 1, 1939, to May 8, 1945, in respect of service in connection with operations in the European and

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<sup>1</sup>described in Section 2 of the *Veterans Health Care Regulations*.

<sup>2</sup>described in Section 37 of the *War Veterans Allowance Act*.

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Mediterranean theatres of war; and from September 1, 1939, to August 15, 1945, in respect of service in connection with operations in the Pacific theatre of war;

- b) a Merchant Navy Veteran of World War I or World War II.

4.3 The following clients are also considered Overseas Service Veterans:

- a) a Veteran who was on service in a theatre of operations<sup>3</sup> as a member of the Canadian Forces, including the special force;
- b) a Canadian Merchant Navy Veteran of the Korean War<sup>4</sup>; or,
- c) effective January 1, 2010, an Allied Veteran described in paragraphs 37(4)(c.1) and (d.1) or subsection 37(4.2) of the *War Veterans Allowance Act*.

Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

4.4 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:

- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
- b) they are eligible to receive home care, ambulatory health care or intermediate care services under the VIP;
- c) they are in receipt of VIP services due to exceptional health needs<sup>5</sup>;
- d) they have been authorized to continue receiving adult residential care in a community facility<sup>6</sup>;
- e) they are in receipt of adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or

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<sup>3</sup>As described in section 2 of the *Veterans Benefit Act*.

<sup>4</sup>As described in section 37 of the *War Veterans Allowance Act*.

<sup>5</sup>Exceptional health needs - see VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

<sup>6</sup>Adult residential care (ARC) was provided as a VIP element until June 30, 1993. Individuals who were approved for ARC prior to its termination on July 1, 1993, were grandfathered.

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- f) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

#### Supplementary Benefits

4.5 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>7</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:

- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

4.6 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.

4.7 Overseas Service Veterans who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if:

- a) they are eligible to receive care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or
- b) they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the VIP or chronic care under the long-term care program.

4.8 When critically-ill Overseas Service Veterans are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

#### Veterans Independence Program

4.9 Overseas Service Veterans eligible for intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or in a contract bed are also eligible to receive home care, ambulatory health care and home adaptations services under the VIP, to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:

- a) they have applied to the Minister for admission to a departmental facility or contract bed, and are not admitted because there is no vacancy in a departmental facility or

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<sup>7</sup>i.e., cost of travel for an Overseas Service Veteran, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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contract bed within a reasonable distance of the community in which they normally reside;

- b) they are resident in Canada; and
- c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those service will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence.

4.10 The preceding paragraph does not apply to those Allied Veterans being recognized effective January 1, 2010, as these individuals are precluded from receiving long-term care in a departmental facility or contract bed.

4.11 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive all VIP services<sup>8</sup> to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:

- a) they are resident in Canada;
- b) they have exceptional health needs<sup>9</sup>;
- c) they have insufficient income to enable them to pay for those services or that care; and
- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of the VIP services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

#### Long-term Care

Overseas Service Veterans are eligible for the following long-term care benefits if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

4.12 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed.

4.13 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive chronic care in a community facility<sup>9</sup>, other than a contract bed, if the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor.

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<sup>8</sup>Clients eligible under exceptional health needs are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of their VIP services. Those receiving intermediate care are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

<sup>9</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meals rate.

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- 4.14 Overseas Service Veterans are eligible to receive intermediate care or chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if they are on a wait list for a contract bed as part of the Overseas Service Wait List Management Pilot Initiative.
- 4.15 The preceding paragraph does not apply to those Allied Veterans being recognized effective January 1, 2010, as these individuals are precluded from receiving long-term care in a departmental facility or contract bed.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on establishing Veterans Independence Program (VIP) eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Primary Caregivers under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, section 16.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 On September 1, 1990, Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) was first authorized to provide VIP services to anyone other than a Veteran. At that time, the VHC Regulations were amended to provide surviving spouses with a one-year continuation of housekeeping and/or grounds maintenance services that the Veteran was receiving at the time of death. This was done to give the surviving spouse an opportunity to make alternate arrangements after the Veteran's death.
- 4.2 On June 13, 2003, the VHC Regulations were amended to enable all future survivors (i.e. a survivor of a Veteran who died on or after June 18, 2003<sup>1</sup>), to continue receiving, for life, the housekeeping and/or grounds maintenance services that were in place at the time of the Veteran's death or admission into a health care facility. Those whose spouses died before June 18, 2003, did not qualify for any lifetime continuation at that time. An additional amendment, made on December 3, 2003, allowed all survivors who had once received the one-year continuation of housekeeping and/or grounds maintenance services, to have those benefits reinstated and continued for life provided the need for the services continued. This change encompassed survivors of Veterans who died on or after September 1, 1990. Also on December 3, 2003, primary caregivers were first recognized in cases where there were no survivors.

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<sup>1</sup>Date regulatory change came into effect.

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- 4.3 Effective February 15, 2005, amendments were again made to the VHC Regulations, this time to extend housekeeping and/or grounds maintenance services to primary caregivers, if the Veteran was in receipt of the services at the time of death or admission to a long-term care facility, regardless of the date of death or admission to a long-term care facility. Additionally, the reference to survivors was removed, and the term “primary caregiver” was interpreted to include survivors.

#### Allied Veterans

- 4.4 Effective January 1, 2010, amendments to the VHC Regulations provide eligible primary caregivers of certain Allied Veterans<sup>2</sup> access to the housekeeping and/or grounds maintenance services of the VIP that the Veteran would have been “entitled to receive”, if:
- a) the Veteran satisfies the definition of an Allied Veteran as described in paragraph 37(4)(c.1) and (d.1) or subsection 37(4.1) or (4.2) of the *War Veterans Allowance Act* (WVA Act);
  - b) the Veteran is not grandfathered under the 1995 amendments to the WVA Act;
  - c) the Veteran died or began residing in a health care facility during the period beginning on October 14, 2008, and ending on December 31, 2009; and,
  - d) the primary caregiver applies to the Minister for the services no later than December 31, 2010.

#### Primary Caregiver Defined

- 4.5 Under the VHC Regulations, a “Primary Caregiver”, in relation to a client, means the adult person (18 years or older) who immediately before the client died or was admitted into a health care facility:
- a) was primarily responsible, without receiving a wage, for ensuring that care was provided to the client; and
  - b) for a continuous period of at least one year, resided in the principal residence of the client and maintained the client or was maintained by the client.

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<sup>2</sup>On June 18, 2009, Royal Assent was given to Bill C-33, *An Act to Amend the War Veterans Allowance Act*, granting the changes necessary to reinstate benefits under the WVA Act to certain Allied Veterans of the Second World War, and to extend for the first time these same benefits to certain Allied Veterans of the Korean War. As the WVA Act serves as a “gateway” to other Veterans’ benefits, amendments to the VHC Regulations came into effect on January 1, 2010, to provide access to health care, the Veterans Independence Program and long-term care to income-qualified World War II Allied Veterans who have at least 10 years post-war Canadian residence and were not grandfathered under the 1995 amendments to the WVA Act. These same benefits are also available to income-qualified Allied Veterans of the Korean War who either satisfy a pre-war domicile connection to Canada or have at least 10 years post-war Canadian residence.

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### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.6 A primary caregiver is entitled to housekeeping services<sup>3</sup> and/or maintenance of the grounds<sup>4</sup> that the client was receiving under the *Department of Veterans Affairs Act* at the time the client died or began residing in a health care facility, if:
- a) the primary caregiver is assessed within one year after the earlier of the client's death or the client's admission into the health care facility or presents evidence relating to their health condition during that period on the basis of which an assessment can be made;
  - b) the assessment and all subsequent assessments indicate that the provision of the services are necessary for health reasons and to assist the primary caregiver to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence;
  - c) the primary caregiver is a resident of Canada; and
  - d) the services are not available to the primary caregiver as insured services under a provincial health care system or a private insurance policy.

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<sup>3</sup>Housekeeping services, namely, those tasks or domestic chores to assist with daily living, which services normally include only routine housekeeping unless the health and safety of the primary caregiver is at risk

<sup>4</sup>Maintenance of the grounds such as mowing of lawns and the removal of ice, snow and leaves from the walkways, driveways, and eaves troughs.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Prisoners of War under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Pension Act*, sections 71.1 to 71.5  
*Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 13, 15, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 The VHC Regulations authorize the provision of specific health care benefits to Prisoners of War<sup>1</sup> who are entitled to basic compensation<sup>2</sup> under the *Pension Act*.

### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.2 Prisoners of War are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are eligible to receive the Veterans Independence Program (VIP) services of home care, ambulatory care, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

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<sup>1</sup>defined in VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

<sup>2</sup>“compensation” means compensation payable on account of time spent by a former prisoner of war in enemy captivity or in evading or escaping from enemy captivity.

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### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.3 Prisoners of War are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.4 Prisoners of War are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.5 Prisoners of War are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada when they are transferred from one health care facility to another for health reasons, if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the VIP.
- 4.6 When critically-ill Prisoners of War are in receipt of intermediate care under VIP and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.7 Prisoners of War are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed to the extent that these services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they are totally disabled<sup>4</sup>, whether by reason of military service or not; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain in their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

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<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Prisoner of War, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>4</sup>described in VPPM Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Red Cross Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Red Cross Pensioner means a Red Cross worker who is entitled to a pension<sup>1</sup> pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between Her Majesty The Queen and The Canadian Red Cross Society made on October 17, 1952.

### Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Red Cross Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition.
- 4.3 Red Cross Pensioners who are hospitalized and assert that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

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<sup>1</sup>Entitled to a pension means the person receives a pension, has received a final payment of a pension or has been declared eligible for a pension.

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#### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Red Cross Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, or as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are seriously disabled<sup>2</sup>.

#### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.5 Red Cross Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>3</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Treatment Allowances

- 4.6 Red Cross Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>4</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.7 Red Cross Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.

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<sup>2</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as seriously disabled).

<sup>3</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Red Cross Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>4</sup>Treatment allowance payments are the difference between the client's usual rate of pension and the 100% disability pension rate applicable to the client.

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- 4.8 When critically-ill Red Cross Pensioners who are in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those clients who are recognized as “Seriously Disabled” under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 15, 22 and 33.1.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Effective August 28, 2001, the VHC Regulations were amended to provide access to health care benefits to those individuals whose extent of disability is equal to or greater than 78% (defined as “seriously disabled”). Health care benefit access for these clients is based on need; not a requirement that the need be related to a pensioned condition.
- 4.2 The term “Seriously Disabled” is defined in the VHC Regulations as:
- “...in relation to a client, means that the client’s extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all of the client’s disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78%<sup>1</sup>.”
- 4.3 A portion of the disability assessment must be related to a disability incurred or aggravated while serving during World War I, World War II, or the Korean War in order for the individual to be eligible for Treatment Benefits, the Veterans Independence Program and/or Long-Term Care as “Seriously Disabled”.

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<sup>1</sup>The disability assessment of 78% or greater excludes any assessment associated with Treatment Allowance or Prisoner of War compensation.

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#### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Veteran Pensioners, Civilian Pensioners, Red Cross Pensioners, Flying Accident Pensioners, or Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Seriously Disabled” are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, to the extent that the treatment benefits are neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system.

#### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.5 Veteran Pensioners, Civilian Pensioners, Red Cross Pensioners, Flying Accident Pensioners, or Newfoundland Special Award Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Seriously Disabled” are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>2</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.6 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Seriously Disabled” are eligible to receive the services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

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<sup>2</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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Long-term Care

- 4.7 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Seriously Disabled” are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care received in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system.

Accommodation and Meals Contribution

- 4.8 Veteran Pensioners or Civilian Pensioners who satisfy the criteria to be recognized as “Seriously Disabled” are not required to pay the cost of accommodation and meals while in receipt of adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care when the cost of that care is payable, in whole or in part, under the VHC Regulations.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Special Duty Service Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13, 15, 17.1, 22, 28, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Special Duty Service Pensioner is defined in the VHC Regulations as a person entitled to a pension<sup>1</sup> under the *Pension Act* for a disability attributable to or incurred during special duty service, as defined in subsection 3(1) of that Act.

### Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces
- 4.3 Special Duty Service Pensioners who are hospitalized and assert that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

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<sup>1</sup>Entitled to a pension means the person receives a pension, has received a final payment of a pension or has been declared eligible for a pension.

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### Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are eligible to receive VIP home care, ambulatory health care, or intermediate care in response to a need arising from a pensioned condition related to their Special Duty Service; or
  - c) they have been authorized to continue receiving adult residential care in a community facility<sup>2</sup>.
- 4.5 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada to the extent that the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are in receipt of VIP services as 'frail'<sup>3</sup>.

### Supplementary Benefits

- 4.6 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>4</sup> if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:
- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or
  - b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

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<sup>2</sup>Adult residential care (ARC) was provided as a VIP element until June 30, 1993. Those individuals who were already approved for ARC when it was terminated, effective July 1, 1993, were grandfathered.

<sup>3</sup>Refer to Frail Policy.

<sup>4</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Special Duty Service Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

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### Treatment Allowances

- 4.7 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>5</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

### Miscellaneous Benefits

- 4.8 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.9 Special Duty Service Pensioners whose pensioned condition is blindness, or another disability that requires an escort when traveling, may have the cost of commercial transportation (other than by automobile) paid for an escort when on annual vacation or other authorized travel within Canada.
- 4.10 Special Duty Service Pensioners who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada if they are eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.11 When critically-ill Special Duty Service Pensioners are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.12 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
  - b) they are resident in Canada;
  - c) an assessment indicates that their war-related pensioned condition impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services; and

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<sup>5</sup>Treatment allowance payments are the difference between the client's usual rate of pension and the 100% disability pension rate applicable to the client.

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- d) the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

4.13 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:

- a) the services or care is neither available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces nor available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
- b) they are resident in Canada;
- c) they meet the criteria of 'frail'; and
- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

Long-term Care

4.14 Special Duty Service Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care, in respect of a war-related pensioned condition, if:

- a) the care is received in Canada, in a community facility, other than a contract bed;
- b) the care is received in a health care facility outside Canada, that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received; and
- c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

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## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on Veterans Independence Program (VIP) eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as "Survivors" under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

21. *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, section 16.1.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Effective February 26, 2008, the VHC Regulations were amended to provide housekeeping<sup>1</sup> and/or grounds maintenance<sup>2</sup> services to the survivor of an income-qualified civilian, an income-qualified Veteran, a Veteran pensioner, or a civilian pensioner of WWI, WWII, or the Korean War who, at the time of their death, was not in receipt of housekeeping or grounds maintenance services.
- 4.2 Under the VHC Regulations, the "Survivor" means, in relation to the person, the adult individual (18 years or older) who, immediately before the person died or, if the person died in a health care facility, immediately before the person was admitted into the health care facility:
- a) was primarily responsible, without receiving a wage, for ensuring that care was provided to the person; and
  - b) for a continuous period of at least one year, resided in the principal residence of the person and maintained the person or was maintained by the person.

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<sup>1</sup>Housekeeping services, namely, those tasks or domestic chores to assist with daily living, which services normally include only routine housekeeping unless the health and safety of the primary caregiver is at risk.

<sup>2</sup>Maintenance of the grounds such as mowing of lawns and the removal of ice, snow and leaves from the walkways, driveways, and eavestroughs.

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Veterans Independence Program

- 4.3 The survivor is eligible to receive housekeeping services and grounds maintenance, if:
- a) an assessment and all subsequent assessments indicate that the provision of the services is necessary for reasons related to the health of the survivor and to assist the survivor to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence;
  - b) the survivor is in receipt of the guaranteed income supplement under the *Old Age Security Act* or is approved for the Disability Tax Credit under section 118.3 of the *Income Tax Act*;
  - c) the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system or a private insurance policy;
  - d) the survivor is not eligible to receive any services as a primary caregiver under Section 16 of the VHC Regulations; and
  - e) the survivor is a resident of Canada.

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Veteran Pensioners			

## 1.0 SYNOPSIS

### Purpose

- 1.1 This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Veteran Pensioners under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 *Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 6, 9, 13, 15, 17.1, 18, 21, 22, 22.1, 28, 29 and 30.

## 3.0 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES

- 3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

## 4.0 POLICY

### General

- 4.1 Under the VHC Regulations, a Veteran Pensioner is defined as a Veteran<sup>1</sup> who is entitled to a pension<sup>2</sup> for a pensioned condition that is related to:
- a) active service in World War I or World War II;
  - b) service in a theatre of operations<sup>3</sup>;
  - c) service as a Canadian merchant mariner as described in section 21.1 of the *Pension Act*; or,
  - d) a war injury or a war flight injury, as defined in section 2 of the *Civilian Government Employees (War) Compensation Order*.

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<sup>1</sup>See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

<sup>2</sup>entitled to a pension means the person receives a pension, has received a final payment of a pension or has been declared eligible for a pension.

<sup>3</sup>described in Section 2 of the *Veterans Benefit Act*.

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Treatment Benefits (Pensioned Condition)

- 4.2 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada or elsewhere in respect of a pensioned condition.
- 4.3 Veteran Pensioners who are hospitalized and assert that the hospitalization is related to their pensioned condition, shall receive treatment benefits in respect of that hospitalization, in Canada or elsewhere, for the period during which there is uncertainty as to whether the primary condition in respect of which the treatment benefits are required is the pensioned condition.

Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

- 4.4 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as members or former members of the Canadian Forces, or as insured services under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are medium<sup>4</sup> or seriously<sup>5</sup> disabled.
- 4.5 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada for any health condition, if:
- a) the treatment benefits are not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are eligible to receive VIP home care, ambulatory health care, or intermediate care in response to a need arising from their war-related pensioned condition;
  - c) they are in receipt of VIP services due to exceptional health needs<sup>6</sup>;
  - d) they are in receipt of VIP services as "frail"<sup>7</sup>;

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<sup>4</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 48% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as medium disabled).

<sup>5</sup>the extent of disability, in respect of the aggregate of all disability assessments under the *Pension Act* and the *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, is equal to or greater than 78% (Only clients with at least a portion of their disability related to service in WWI, WWII, or the Korean War may be eligible for benefits as seriously disabled).

<sup>6</sup>Refer to policy on Exceptional Health Needs, VPPM Vol 2.

<sup>7</sup>Refer to Frail Policy.

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- e) they have been authorized to continue receiving adult residential care in a community facility<sup>8</sup>;
- f) they are in receipt of adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or a contract bed; or
- g) they are in receipt of chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor.

#### Supplementary Benefits

4.6 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive supplementary benefits<sup>9</sup>, if they are in receipt of the following treatment benefits authorized by the Department:

- a) any medical, surgical or dental examination or treatment provided by a health professional; or,
- b) the provision or maintenance of any surgical or prosthetic device or aid, or any home adaptations to accommodate the use of the device or aid.

#### Treatment Allowances

4.7 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive a treatment allowance<sup>10</sup> in respect of a period of acute care for a pensioned condition provided in a hospital or on an out-patient basis.

#### Miscellaneous Benefits

4.8 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.

4.9 Veteran Pensioners whose war-related pensioned condition is blindness and who are taking a rehabilitation course for blindness, are eligible to receive treatment benefits and supplementary benefits for a maximum of one year, or for the length of the course, whichever is shorter.

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<sup>8</sup>Adult residential care (ARC) was provided as a VIP element until June 30, 1993. Individuals who were already approved for ARC prior to its termination July 1, 1993, were grandfathered.

<sup>9</sup>i.e., cost of travel for a Veteran Pensioner, as well as remuneration and cost of travel for a qualified escort, if applicable.

<sup>10</sup>Treatment allowance payments are the difference between the client's usual rate of pension and the 100% disability pension rate applicable to the client.

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- 4.10 Veteran Pensioners whose pensioned condition is blindness, or another disability that requires an escort when traveling, may have the cost of commercial transportation (other than by automobile) paid for an escort when on annual vacation or other authorized travel within Canada.
- 4.11 Veteran Pensioners who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada, if they are:
- a) eligible to receive care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or
  - b) eligible to receive any part of the cost of intermediate care under the Veterans Independence Program or chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.12 When critically-ill Veteran Pensioners are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care or in receipt of acute care in a hospital and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

Veterans Independence Program

- 4.13 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that their war-related pensioned condition impairs their ability to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence without those services, and the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.14 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care, and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they are medium or seriously disabled; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

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- 4.15 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive the VIP services of home care, ambulatory health care and home adaptations, or intermediate care in a community facility other than a contract bed, to the extent that those services or that care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they meet the criteria of 'frail'; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.16 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive all VIP services<sup>11</sup> to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they have exceptional health care needs;
  - c) they have insufficient income to enable them to pay for those services or that care; and
  - d) an assessment indicates that the provision of those services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.17 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive home care, ambulatory health care and home adaptations services under the VIP, to the extent that the services are not available to them as insured services under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they have applied to the Minister for admission to a departmental facility or contract bed and are not admitted because there is no vacancy in a departmental facility or contract bed within a reasonable distance of the community in which they normally reside;
  - b) they are resident in Canada; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of those service will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence.

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<sup>11</sup>Clients eligible under exceptional health needs are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of their VIP services. Those receiving intermediate care are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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### Long-term Care

Veteran Pensioners are eligible for the following long-term care benefits if an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

- 4.18 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed.
- 4.19 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care, in respect of a war-related pensioned condition, if the care is:
- a) received, in Canada, in a community facility, other than a contract bed; and
  - b) received in a health care facility, outside Canada, that is of a standard equivalent to the care that would have been provided under a) provided that the cost of such care does not exceed the usual cost of chronic care in the jurisdiction in which the care is received.
- 4.20 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive the cost to them of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are medium or seriously disabled.
- 4.21 Veteran Pensioners are eligible to receive chronic care in Canada in a community facility<sup>12</sup>, other than a contract bed, if:
- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) the cost of their care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor.

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<sup>12</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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1.0 **SYNOPSIS**

1.1 Purpose

This policy provides direction on health care eligibility for those individuals who are recognized as Allied Veterans under the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHC Regulations).

2.0 **AUTHORITY**

2.1 *War Veterans Allowance Act*, subsection 37(4)  
*Veterans Health Care Regulations*, sections 2, 3, 13, 15, 18, 21, 21.1, 22.1, 29, and 30

3.0 **OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES/GUIDELINES/PROCESSES**

3.1 Other departmental policies, program directives, business processes and benefit grids, if applicable.

4.0 **POLICY**

General

4.1 The original *War Veterans Allowance Act* (WVA Act), passed in 1930, provided benefit eligibility to Allied Veterans if they were domiciled in Canada at the time of enlistment. In 1950 a legislative amendment was approved to allow Allied Veterans of World War I to qualify for Veterans' benefits providing they had resided in this country for a period of at least 20 years. In 1957, a further amendment was made to reduce the qualifying period of residence in Canada for Allied veterans of WW1 from 20 years to 10 years. Allied Veterans of WW2 were similarly extended the right to WVA after 10 years of Canadian residence by an amendment passed in 1960.

4.2 From the 1960`s up to the mid-1990`s, Allied Veterans continued to access Veterans' benefits under the provisions noted above. Thereafter, following an extensive Program Review<sup>1</sup> exercise, legislative changes that affected Allied Veterans were made as part of the 1995 Federal Budget (*Budget Implementation Act*, 1995). This resulted in the

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<sup>1</sup>Program Review was an all-encompassing process that implicated all federal departments and agencies, and it was made necessary because the Government felt the country's fiscal situation had reached a dire situation and exceptional measures were warranted. Hence, a scrutiny was undertaken of all federal programs and services to determine if their growth had reached a point where they far exceeded their original purpose.

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removal of benefit access for those Allied Veterans with formal military service<sup>2</sup> during the wars who had immigrated to, and resided in this country for at least 10 years post war. At that time, due to the fact that a large number of Allied Veterans had already been approved for Veterans' benefits and, thus, had developed a dependency on such; for compassionate reasons, grandfathering rights were extended to all Allied Veterans who were in receipt of any Veterans' benefits on or before February 27, 1995.

- 4.3 Subsequent to the passage of the 1995 Budget, in 2003, the Government amended the VHC Regulations to provide certain Allied Veterans with access to VAC's long-term care program. Effective November 6, 2003, those Allied Veterans of World War I or World War II who have at least 10 years post-war Canadian residency became eligible to receive intermediate or chronic care in approved, community health care facilities (excluding contract beds). If the Allied Veteran's health care needs increase to the point where specialized care is needed and cannot be adequately provided in a community facility, intermediate or chronic care may then be provided in a departmental or contract bed. Once the Allied Veteran is entitled to receive care in an approved facility, any related health care benefits not covered under a provincially-insured system may also be provided.
- 4.4 On June 18, 2009, Royal Assent was given to Bill C-33, *An Act to Amend the War Veterans Allowance Act*, granting the changes necessary to reinstate benefits under the WVA Act to certain allied Veterans of the Second World War, and to extend for the first time these same benefits to certain Allied Veterans of the Korean War. As the WVA Act serves as a "gateway" to other Veterans' benefits, amendments to the VHC Regulations will come into effect on January 1, 2010, to provide access to health care, the Veterans Independence Program and long-term care to income-qualified World War II Allied Veterans who have at least 10 years post-war Canadian residence and were not grandfathered under the 1995 amendments to the WVA Act. These same benefits will also be available to income-qualified Allied Veterans of the Korean War who satisfy either a pre-war domicile connection to Canada or have at least 10 years post-war Canadian residence.
- 4.5 A transitional provision set out in Bill C-33 enables VAC to provide health care benefits, VIP and long-term care back to October 2008 to or in respect of an allied Veteran who:
- (a) would have been eligible to receive health care benefits if *Bill C-33* had come into force on October 14, 2008<sup>3</sup>; and

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<sup>2</sup>Excludes service as a member of a "resistance group", which is defined in the WVA Act as: "... any force that was raised during World War I or World War II ... in a country after it was occupied by an enemy of His Majesty in that War and that operated against that enemy."

<sup>3</sup>Date that coincides with the mandate of the current Conservative Government.

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- (b) makes an application to the Minister of Veterans Affairs no later than December 31, 2010.

This transitional provision applies only to those Allied Veterans or their survivors targeted in Bill C-33.

4.6 An Allied Veteran is defined as:

- A) Any former member of any of His Majesty's forces, or of any of the forces, other than resistance groups, of any of His Majesty's allies in World War II who:
- a) served in a theatre of actual war during that war;
  - b) resided in Canada for a total period of at least 10 years beginning on or after August 15, 1945; and
  - c) has been honourably discharged or has been permitted honourably to resign or retire from one of those forces.
- B) Any former member of any of the forces that took part in the Korean War who:
- a) served in a theatre of operations;
  - b) resided in Canada for a total period of at least 10 years beginning on or after July 27, 1953, and
  - c) has been honourably discharged or has been permitted honourably to resign or retire from one of those forces.

4.7 Allied Veterans normally acquire eligibility for health care benefits, VIP services and long-term care by virtue of satisfying the definition of an income-qualified<sup>4</sup> Veteran. In some cases, i.e. exceptional health needs, etc., eligibility is based on satisfying the definition of an overseas service Veteran.

Treatment Benefits (Any Health Condition)

4.8 Allied Veterans of World War II who either satisfy a pre-war Canadian domicile criterion or are grandfathered are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada that are not available as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified Veteran.

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<sup>4</sup>Under the *VHC Regulations*, an income-qualified Veteran means a Veteran who is in receipt of an allowance under the *War Veterans Allowance Act* or in respect of whom a determination has been made that the Veteran would be eligible for such an allowance if the Veteran or their spouse/common-law partner were not in receipt of, or eligible to receive, payments under the *Old Age Security Act* or similar legislation of another country.

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- 4.9 Allied Veterans of World War II who satisfy the post-war Canadian residence requirement and Allied Veterans of the Korean War (both pre-war domicile and those with 10 years post-war residence) are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada that are not available as an insured service under a provincial health care system, if:
- a) they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified veteran; or,
  - b) if they are in receipt of VIP services due to exceptional health needs<sup>5</sup>.
- 4.10 Allied Veterans of World War II who satisfy the post-war Canadian residence requirement are eligible to receive treatment benefits in Canada on or after November 6, 2003; if
- a) the treatment benefits are not available as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - b) they are in receipt of intermediate care or chronic care in a community facility, a departmental facility or a contract bed.
- Miscellaneous Benefits
- 4.11 Allied Veterans are eligible to receive reimbursement associated with a medical examination, if the medical examination is requested by the Department or the Veterans Review and Appeal Board.
- 4.12 Allied Veterans who are transferred from one health care facility to another for medical reasons are eligible to receive the costs of transportation incurred in Canada; if they are:
- a) eligible to receive care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or
  - b) eligible to receive any part of the cost of chronic care under the long-term care program.
- 4.13 When critically-ill Allied Veterans are in receipt of intermediate care under VIP or chronic care under long-term care and, in the attending physician's opinion, a visit by a family member or other designated person would be beneficial to the health of the client; that family member or other designated person is eligible to receive the transportation costs incurred, in Canada, for the visit.

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<sup>5</sup> See VPPM, Volume 2, Definition Glossary.

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### Veterans Independence Program

- 4.14 Allied Veterans of World War II who either satisfy a pre-war Canadian domicile criterion or are grandfathered are eligible to receive VIP services to the extent that the services are not available as insured services under a provincial health care system if they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified Veteran, and:
- a) they are resident in Canada; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.15 Allied Veterans of World War II who satisfy the post-war Canadian residence requirement, and Allied Veterans of the Korean War (both pre-war domicile and those with 10 years post-war residence) are eligible to receive VIP services to the extent that the services are not available as insured services under a provincial health care system if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified veteran; and
  - c) an assessment indicates that the provision of these services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence, or the provision of that care is necessary for health reasons.
- 4.16 Allied Veterans of World War II who satisfy the post-war Canadian residence requirement, and Allied Veterans of the Korean War (both pre-war domicile and those with 10 years post-war residence) who satisfy the definition of an overseas service veteran are eligible to receive all VIP services<sup>6</sup> to the extent that the services are not available as insured services under a provincial health care system if:
- a) they are resident in Canada;
  - b) they have exceptional health needs;
  - c) they have insufficient income to enable them to pay for those services or that care; and,

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<sup>6</sup>Clients eligible under exceptional health needs are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of their VIP services. Those receiving intermediate care are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.

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- d) an assessment indicates that the provision of the VIP services will assist them to remain self-sufficient at their principal residence or that the provision of care is necessary for health reasons.

#### Long-term Care

- 4.17 Allied Veterans of World War II who either satisfy a pre-war Canadian domicile criterion or are grandfathered are eligible to receive the following long-term care benefits if they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified Veteran, and an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.
- a) adult residential care, intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed; or
  - b) the cost of chronic care in Canada in a community facility, other than a contact bed, if the care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system.
- 4.18 World War II Allied Veterans with at least 10 years of post-war residence in Canada are eligible to receive the cost to them of intermediate care or chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed; if
- a) admitted for the first time on or after November 6, 2003; and
  - b) it is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
  - c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.
- 4.19 World War II Allied Veterans with at least 10 years of post-war residence in Canada are eligible to receive intermediate care or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed; if
- a) admitted from home or a community facility, other than a contract bed, on or after November 6, 2003; and
  - b) an assessment indicates that their health care needs have increased and they require specialized care that cannot adequately be provided in a community facility, other than a contract bed.

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4.20 World War II Allied Veterans with at least 10 years of post-war Canadian residence, and Korean War Allied Veterans (both pre-war domicile and those with 10 years post-war residence) are eligible to receive chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed; if:

- a) it is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system;
- b) they satisfy the definition of an income-qualified veteran; and,
- c) an assessment shows that the care is an appropriate response to their health needs.

4.21 Allied Veterans of World War II who satisfy the post-war Canadian residence requirement, and Allied Veterans of the Korean War (both pre-war domicile and those with 10 years post-war residence) who satisfy the definition of an overseas service veteran may be eligible for chronic care in a community facility, other than a contract bed, if:

- a) the chronic care is not available to them as an insured service under a provincial health care system; and
- b) the cost of care reduces their income below the applicable WVA income factor<sup>7</sup>.

4.22 The provision of intermediate and chronic care for some Allied Veterans of World War II may overlap, as a result of the recent amendments to the VHC Regulations. In these cases, eligibility under section 21.1 should be considered first, as entitlement eligibility under this section provides intermediate or chronic care in a departmental facility or contract bed under certain circumstances, whereas eligibility under sections 15, 18, 21 and 22.1 precludes this.

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<sup>7</sup>These clients are required to pay the amount of their assessable income that exceeds the WVA income factor toward the cost of care. They are also required to pay up to the maximum accommodation and meal rate.