

Department of Veterans Affairs

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AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1721, and as stated in specific sections.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 17 appear at 61 FR 7216, Feb. 27, 1996.

DEFINITIONS AND ACTIVE DUTY

§ 17.30 Definitions.

When used in Department of Veterans Affairs medical regulations, each of the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to it in this section:

(a) *Medical services*. The term *medical services* includes, in addition to medical examination, treatment, and rehabilitative services:

(1) Surgical services, dental services and appliances as authorized in §§ 17.160 through 17.166, optometric and podiatric services, (in the case of a person otherwise receiving care or services under this chapter) the preventive health care services set forth in 38 U.S.C. 1762, wheelchairs, artificial limbs, trusses and similar appliances, special clothing made necessary by the wearing of prosthetic appliances, and such other supplies or services as are medically determined to be reasonable and necessary.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1701(6)(A)(i))

(2) Such consultation, professional counseling, training and mental health services as are necessary in connection with the treatment—

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(i) Of the service-connected disability of a veteran pursuant to §17.93(a);

(ii) Of the nonservice-connected disability of a veteran where such services were initiated during the veteran's hospitalization and the provision of such services is essential to permit the release of the veteran from inpatient care;

for the members of the immediate family or legal guardian of the veteran, or the individual in whose household such veteran certifies an intention to live, as may be essential to the effective treatment and rehabilitation of the veteran or dependent or survivor of a veteran receiving care under §17.84(c). For the purposes of this paragraph, a dependent or survivor of a veteran receiving care under §17.84(c) shall be eligible for the same medical services as a veteran; and

(3) Transportation and incidental expenses for any person entitled to such benefits under the provisions of §17.143.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1701(6))

(b) *Domiciliary care.* The term *domiciliary care* means the furnishing of a home to a veteran, embracing the furnishing of shelter, food, clothing and other comforts of home, including necessary medical services. The term further includes travel and incidental expenses pursuant to §17.143.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1701(4))

[23 FR 6498, Aug. 22, 1958, as amended at 24 FR 8326, Oct. 14, 1959; 30 FR 1787, Feb. 9, 1965; 32 FR 6841, Mar. 4, 1967; 32 FR 13813, Oct. 4, 1967; 33 FR 5298, Apr. 3, 1968; 33 FR 19009, Dec. 20, 1968; 34 FR 9339, June 13, 1969; 36 FR 4782, Mar. 12, 1971; 45 FR 6934, Jan. 31, 1980; 47 FR 58246, Dec. 30, 1982; 49 FR 50029, Dec. 26, 1984; 51 FR 25264, July 10, 1986; 54 FR 14648, Apr. 12, 1989; 61 FR 21965, 21966, May 13, 1996; 62 FR 17072, Apr. 9, 1997]

§ 17.31 Duty periods defined.

Definitions of duty periods applicable to eligibility for medical benefits are as follows:

(a)-(c) [Reserved]

(d) *Inactive duty training.* The term *inactive duty training* means: (1) Duty (other than full-time duty) prescribed for Reserves (including commissioned officers of the Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service) by the Secretary concerned under section 206,

title 37 U.S.C., or any other provision of law;

(2) Special additional duties authorized for Reserves (including commissioned officers of the Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service) by an authority designated by the Secretary concerned and performed by them on a voluntary basis in connection with the prescribed training or maintenance activities of the units to which they are assigned.

(3) Duty (other than full-time duty) for members of the National Guard or Air National Guard of any State under the provisions of law stated in paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(4) Inactive duty for training does not include work or study performed in connection with correspondence courses, or attendance at an educational institution in an inactive status, or duty performed as a temporary member of the Coast Guard Reserve.

[34 FR 9339, June 13, 1969, as amended at 45 FR 6934, Jan. 31, 1980; 45 FR 43169, June 26, 1980; 48 FR 56580, Dec. 22, 1983; 61 FR 21965, May 13, 1996]

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 61 FR 21965, May 13, 1996, §17.31 was amended by removing (a), (b) introductory text, (b)(1) through (b)(4), (b)(6), (b)(7) and (c). Text remaining in effect is set forth above.

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Full-time duty as a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Reserve of the Navy and Marine Corps and Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard.

[34 FR 9339, June 13, 1969, as amended at 61 FR 21965, May 13, 1996]

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 61 FR 21965, May 13, 1996, §17.31(b)(5) was redesignated as §17.31.

PROTECTION OF PATIENT RIGHTS

§ 17.32 Informed consent and advance care planning.

(a) *Definitions:*

Advance Directive. Specific written statements made by a patient who has decision-making capacity regarding future health care decisions in any of the following:

(i) *VA Living Will.* A written statement made by a patient on an authorized VA form which sets forth the patient's wishes regarding the patient's