



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
HEALTH AFFAIRS

7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD, SUITE 5101
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22042-5101

March 2015

Dear TRICARE Beneficiary,

I am writing to let you know that TRICARE is implementing an enhanced screening process for compound prescriptions on May 1, 2015. This is the same process currently used for non-compound prescriptions and ensures you get safe, effective and evidence-based care.

Compound drugs are made by a pharmacist mixing multiple ingredients together to create a prescription drug product specific to a person's needs. Our enhanced screening process is necessary to make sure these prescriptions contain ingredients that are lawfully marketed in the United States, safe and effective, and medically necessary.

This screening is standard practice widely used by TRICARE and other health care programs for all types of prescription drugs. Most compound drugs will meet the screening criteria. If yours does, this change won't impact you.

If a compound drug doesn't meet the criteria, there are three options:

1. Your pharmacist may be able to use a different, approved ingredient.
2. Your doctor may prescribe a different drug.
3. Your doctor may request a prior authorization (If the prior authorization is denied, you can appeal that decision).

To learn more about our enhanced screening process visit www.tricare.mil/CompoundDrugs.

TRICARE is proud to serve our nation's military heroes and their families and is committed to providing you with safe treatment options.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Robb, DO, MPH
Lieutenant General, USAF, MC, CFS
Director, Defense Health Agency

