Charter Uniform Formulary Beneficiary Advisory Panel

- 1. <u>Committee's Official Designation</u>: The Committee will be known as the Uniform Formulary Beneficiary Advisory Panel ("the Panel").
- 2. <u>Authority</u>: The Secretary of Defense, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1074g(c) and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended) and 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.50(a), established the Panel.
- 3. <u>Objectives and Scope of Activities</u>: The Panel shall provide independent advice and recommendations on the development of the uniform formulary, as described further in paragraph four below.
- 4. <u>Description of Duties</u>: As directed by 10 U.S.C. 1074g(c)(1), the Panel shall provide the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)), and the Director, Defense Health Agency (DHA), independent advice and recommendations on the development of the uniform formulary. The Secretary of Defense shall consider the comments of the Panel before implementing the uniform formulary or implementing changes to the uniform formulary.
- 5. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports: The Panel shall report to the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense through the USD(P&R), the ASD(HA), and the Director, DHA. The USD(P&R), or designated representative, may act upon the Panel's advice and recommendations.
- 6. <u>Support</u>: The Department of Defense (DoD), through the Office of the USD(P&R) and the DHA, shall provide support, as deemed necessary, for the Panel's performance of its functions and shall ensure compliance with the requirements of the FACA, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. § 552b, as amended) ("the Sunshine Act"), governing Federal statutes and regulations, and established DoD policies and procedures.
- 7. <u>Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years</u>: The estimated annual operating cost, to include travel, meetings, and contract support, is approximately \$71,000. The estimated annual personnel cost to the DoD is 0.25 full-time equivalents.
- 8. <u>Designated Federal Officer</u>: The Panel's Designated Federal Officer (DFO) shall be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD employee appointed pursuant to governing DoD policies and procedures.

The Panel's DFO is required to be in attendance at all meetings of the Panel and any subcommittees for the entire duration of each and every meeting. However, in the absence of the Panel's DFO, a properly approved Alternate DFO, duly appointed to the Panel according to established DoD policies and procedures, shall attend the entire duration of all meetings of the Panel and its subcommittees.

The DFO, or Alternate DFO, shall call all meetings of the Panel and its subcommittees; prepare and approve all meeting agendas; and adjourn any meeting when the DFO, or the Alternate

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DFO, determines adjournment to be in the public interest or required by governing regulations or DoD policies and procedures.

- 9. <u>Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings</u>: The Panel shall meet at the call of the Panel's DFO, in consultation with the Panel's Chair. The estimated number of Panel meetings is four per year.
- 10. <u>Duration</u>: The need for this advisory function is on a continuing basis; however, this charter is subject to renewal every two years.
- 11. <u>Termination</u>: The Panel shall terminate upon rescission of 10 U.S.C. § 1074g(c).
- 12. <u>Membership and Designation</u>: The Panel, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 1074g(c)(2), shall be comprised of no more than 15 members. The panel shall include members that represent:
 - a. Non-governmental organizations and associations that represent the views and interests of a large number of eligible covered beneficiaries;
 - b. Contractors responsible for the TRICARE retail pharmacy program;
 - c. Contractors responsible for the national mail-order pharmacy program; and
 - d. TRICARE network providers.

The Panel members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and their appointments shall be renewed on an annual basis in accordance with DoD policies and procedures. Individuals who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal employees shall be appointed as experts or consultants, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109, to serve as special government employee (SGE) members. Individuals who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal employees shall be appointed, pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a), to serve as regular government employee (RGE) members. Panel members shall serve a term of service of one-to-four years, and no member may serve more than two consecutive terms of service without the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense approval. This term of service limitation also applies to any DoD authorized subcommittees.

All members of the Panel are appointed to provide advice on the basis of their best judgment without representing any particular points of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest.

Panel members will serve without compensation except for reimbursement of travel and per diem as it pertains to official business of the Panel.

13. <u>Subcommittees</u>: The Department, when necessary and consistent with the Panel's mission and DoD policies and procedures, may establish subcommittees, task forces, or working groups to support the Panel. Establishment of subcommittees will be based upon a written determination, to include terms of reference, by the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, or the USD(P&R), as the Panel's Sponsor.

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Such subcommittees shall not work independently of the Panel and shall report all of their recommendations and advice solely to the Panel for full and open deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees, task forces, or working groups have no authority to make decisions and recommendations, verbally or in writing, on behalf of the Panel. No subcommittee or any of its members can update or report, verbally or in writing, on behalf of the Panel, directly to the DoD or any Federal officers or employees.

The Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense will appoint subcommittee members to a term of service of one-to-four years, with annual renewals, even if the member in question is already a member of the Panel.

Subcommittee members, if not full-time or permanent part-time Federal employees, shall be appointed as experts or consultants, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109, to serve as SGE members. Those individuals who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal employees shall be appointed, pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a), to serve as RGE members. With the exception of reimbursement for official travel and per diem related to the Panel or its subcommittees, subcommittee members shall serve without compensation.

All subcommittees operate under the provisions of FACA, the Sunshine Act, governing Federal statutes and regulations, and established DoD policies and procedures.

- 14. <u>Recordkeeping</u>: The records of the Panel and its subcommittees shall be handled according to section 2, General Records Schedule 26, and governing DoD policies and procedures. These records will be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1966 (5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended).
- 15. Filing Date: August 1, 2014