

## MATERIAL STANDARDIZATION PURCHASING POLICY FOR TRICARE REGIONS 6, 7 & 8

1. Purpose: To establish a Regional Standardization and Purchasing policy for medical-surgical, pharmaceutical, and dental products within TRICARE Regions 6,7,& 8.
2. General: To the extent possible, the regions will standardize the use of products, and whenever possible to take advantage of committed volume purchase agreements, in order to obtain price reductions and overall supply chain savings. To achieve this:
  - a. A Tri-Service Product Review Board (TPRB) has been established and acts under the direction of DoD Lead Agent VI. The TPRB membership will consist of, the Chief Medical Officer of DoD Lead Agent VI, who serves as chairperson, the Regional Logistics Chief, the logistics chief of BAMC, and various experts and clinicians.
  - b. The TPRB will identify and pursue opportunities for standardization and volume purchasing within the regions.
  - c. Items approved by the Lead Agent for standardization will be honored by all Region 6, 7 and 8 MTFs. In cases where local circumstances lead a local commander to non-concur with TPRB decision, that issue will be brought to the Lead Agent for resolution.
  - d. The Chairman of the TPRB is authorized to represent the region for the purpose of signing purchase agreements that have been approved by the Lead Agent.
  - e. Purchase agreements will be executed through the Defense Supply Center, Philadelphia (DSCP) Prime Vendor Program, which serves as the primary source of MedSurg materiel within the region.
  - f. Pricing obtained through volume purchasing agreements will be available to all MTFs in the Region.
3. This initiative is consistent with ASD(HA) Policy 98-013, which requires the establishment of Regional Tri-Service Medical Logistics Support Programs in each DoD healthcare region, and with the implementation guidance for this policy currently being drafted by the Services, Deputy Surgeons General. Regional standardization efforts cannot succeed without strong command emphasis and clinical support.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_