

Material Standardization Purchasing Policy
TRICARE Regions 9 & 10

1. **Purpose:** To establish a Regional Standardization and Purchasing Policy for Medical-Surgical (MedSurg) products within TRICARE Regions 9 (Southern California) and 10 (Golden Gate).
2. **General:** The military treatment facilities (MTFs) in TRICARE Regions 9 & 10 will act as an integrated purchasing alliance for the acquisition of MedSurg products. To the extent possible, these regions will standardize the use of MedSurg products, and wherever possible, 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) will be established and operate under the joint direction of TRICARE Regions 9 & 10. The TPRB membership will consist of one TRICARE OLA appointee from each region as well as the logistics chief and at least one clinician from each MTF.
 - b. The TPRB will identify and pursue opportunities for standardization and volume purchasing within the region.
 - c. Standardization recommendations approved by the TPRB will be reported to the Tri-Service Executive Council (TEC) in Region 9 and to the Governing Board in Region 10. All MTFs in Regions 9 & 10 will honor all TEC/Governing Board standardization decisions. In the event a MTF commander does not agree with the approved TPRB recommendation, an appeal letter describing the reasons will be submitted to the Appeals Board for resolution.
 - d. The Chairman of the TPRB is authorized to represent both regions for the purpose of signing purchase agreements that have been approved by the TPRB.
 - e. As often as possible, 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 regions.
 - f. Pricing obtained through volume purchasing agreements must be available to all MTFs in both regions.
3. This initiative is consistent with ASD(HA) Policy 98-013, which requires the establishment of Regional Tri-Service Medical Logistics Support Program in each DoD healthcare region, and with the implementation guidance for this policy issued by the Deputy Surgeons General. Regional standardization efforts cannot succeed without strong command emphasis and clinical support.