

Media Report 15 November 2019,

This weeks media report will cover Treatment Benefits, Veterans have been asking questions on this service. The info in this report will give the Families and our Senior Veterans the information required to keep living a dignified retirement either in their home or at a Health Care Facility. As well as local articles.

Treatment benefits

We all need healthcare services. The Treatment benefits program provides coverage for a variety of benefits and services to help you get—and stay—healthy.

About this program

If you qualify for the Treatment Benefits program, you will receive a VAC healthcare card.

This healthcare card provides coverage for such things as home health or hospital services, nursing services, appointments with specialists (such as physiotherapists, audiologists, and mental health providers), medical equipment, prosthetics, and prescriptions.

The extent of your coverage will depend on a number of factors, including how you qualified, your health needs and your individual circumstances.

Do I qualify?

You will qualify for healthcare coverage and receive a VAC healthcare card if you qualify for:

- a [disability benefit](#),
- the [Veterans Independence Program](#),
- the [War Veterans Allowance](#), or
- financial assistance from VAC for [long-term care](#).

How to apply

You do not need to apply for the treatment benefits program or for a VAC healthcare card. A card will be sent directly to you after you have received one of the benefits listed above.

If you are a still-serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, you will typically receive your card after you release from service as [these benefits will be provided by your home organization](#), not

Get help

If you have questions about your health coverage or about VAC's treatment benefits program, visit any [VAC office](#) or call us at 1-866-522-2122. You can also contact [Medavie Blue Cross](#).

How to use your VAC healthcare card

Often, you only need to show your VAC card to the provider of your choice to receive health benefits or services.

The provider may also need to see your prescription from your doctor or health professional and receive pre-authorization from VAC before they can provide the benefit or service to you.

- Prescription – A prescription is valid for one year from the date on it. It confirms you are under the care of a health care professional and details their recommended therapy for your health need. To learn who can provide a prescription, see the section – Prescriber Required – in that benefit's details of the [Benefit Grid](#).
- Pre-Authorization - To find if pre-authorization is needed, see the section – Pre-authorization Required – in that benefit's details found in the Benefit Grid. Your provider can [contact us](#) (or Medavie Blue Cross at 1-866-811-6060) for pre-authorization. Most services will only need pre-authorization once.

Using a registered provider – A registered provider can bill Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) directly so you do not need to pay out of pocket. To find registered providers in your area, please [contact us](#) or use your [Medavie Blue Cross account](#).

Using any other provider – You may have to pay this provider for their services and then seek reimbursement from VAC.

Please note: we may not be able to reimburse the cost of services you purchased prior to having pre-authorization.

Reimbursement

To receive reimbursement, you need to send your request within 18 months from the date you received the treatment benefit or service. The provider must be:

- licensed or certified by your province or territory; or
- where no provincial or territorial regulations exist, they must meet requirements set by VAC.

To receive reimbursement, you will need to submit your proof of payment (original receipt or invoice) that shows:

- the date you received the benefit or service;
- the name of the benefit or service;
- the amount you paid; and,
- the name and address of the provider.

You can submit your request through your secure account at www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo or [download the form](#) and mail it to:

National Reimbursement Centre
PO Box 6700
Moncton, NB E1C 0T8

Sign up for [Direct Deposit](#) to receive your reimbursements directly into your bank account.

Coverage details

Programs of Choice

Read the overview of each of the fourteen (14) health care benefits programs, known as the [programs of choice](#), provided by Veterans Affairs Canada

Benefit grids

The [Benefit Grids](#) are a resource for both providers and recipients. This national database shows the requirements for benefits and services available within the fourteen (14) programs of choice, except for dental (POC 4), medical (POC 6) and prescription drugs (POC 10).

Dental and medical professionals can contact Medavie Blue Cross whenever they have questions about coverage.

The [drug formulary](#) is a database of prescription medicines (POC 10) covered by Veterans Affairs Canada.

Frequencies and dollar limits

There are frequency and dollar limits for most benefits. To determine if your benefit has any, view that benefit's details in the [Benefit Grid](#).

You, your doctor or your health professional should [contact us](#) if your prescribed treatment will exceed these limits.

Medavie Blue Cross online

Through your secure account at www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo, you can:

- Find a list of registered providers;
 - Find claim forms and other documents;
 - View your claim status, explanations, and claims archive;
 - Find your coverage details; and
 - Request a replacement card (or print a temporary card).
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Health-related travel

Your VAC health card is valid everywhere in Canada. However, before traveling to another province, we recommend that you [call us](#) for advice on how to get services outside of your home province. If the provider in that province will not accept your card as payment, you may have to pay for the benefit and then request reimbursement from VAC.

Please note: if you are traveling outside of Canada, health providers in other countries will not accept your card as payment.

Reimbursement

We can cover eligible travel expenses to receive benefits or services in Canada. Learn more about reimbursement for [health-related travel](#).

Find out more

Currently serving in the military or RCMP?

If you have qualified for a disability benefit, your health services will be provided by your home organization until you release from service, except for Class A or Class B (180 days or less) Reservists whose health services will be provided by VAC.

What to do when you are releasing:

- Canadian Armed Forces members – please ensure your discharge documents have been provided to your Health Services Centre (CF H Svcs C). Incorrect release date information can delay your access to VAC's treatment benefits.
- RCMP members – please [contact us](#) to provide your discharge date.

Note: If you are a member of the RCMP, with prior service in the Canadian Armed Forces, and receive a disability benefit related to your CAF service, your health

coverage for that condition will be provided by VAC, not the RCMP. Please contact us if you experience any difficulty accessing your coverage.

Related programs

[Disability benefits](#): compensation to recognize that your injury or illness is a result of your service.

[Veterans Independence Program](#): Payments for home and health care services that you need to remain independent at home.

[Long-term care](#): Monthly payments to cover the cost of your long-term care.

[War Veterans allowance](#): Monthly payments if you have a low household income.

Frequently asked questions

Can I appeal any decision VAC makes about my treatment benefits?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to request a review. There are two levels of review.

- First Level Review – The decision letter (or your explanation of benefits document) indicates how to submit a request for a first level review.
 - Final Review – The decision letter for your first level review will indicate how to request a final (known as a second level) review.
-

Does my provider need to call VAC for pre-authorization each year, even if I am requesting the same benefit or service?

For most benefits and services, VAC only requires pre-authorization the first time you obtain a benefit or service. However, certain benefits require pre-authorization each time you request the benefit. The [Benefit Grid](#) can help your provider determine which requirements apply to their service.

Can I choose any supplier or provider of treatment benefits and services?

You may obtain treatment benefits and services from a supplier or provider of your choice who meets VAC provider requirements. [Contact us](#) or Medavie Blue Cross if you have any questions regarding these provider requirements.

Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the [policies for Veterans](#).

Media Reports over the last several months

<http://www.cavunp-ottawa.ca/news-media-report.html>

NATO VETS and Beech wood

Our past President Mr Gord Jenkins laid a reef on behalf of NATO Veterans of Canada At Beechwood Cemetery

Gord also did a number of speeches at schools this year as well

<https://webmail.bell.net/appsuite/api/mail/2019%20Nov%2011%20NATO%20VETS%20%26%20ANAVETS.JPG?action=attachment&folder=default0%2FINBOX&id=107991&attachment=2&delivery=view>

[No soldier forgotten: Keeping track of Canada's war graves](#)

CBC News

Sapper Abraham Sowers was wounded at Vimy Ridge, the site of the iconic First World War battle. He caught shrapnel in the face from an exploding shell and was evacuated to England, but later returned to France to serve with a combat engineering company digging tunnels underneath the front. It was there Sowers developed a nasty cough that put him in hospital once before the end of the war. He carried it home with him to Canada. Pulmonary tuberculosis killed him in Hamilton, ON, on Oct. 15, 1919. He was 31. [READ MORE](#)

[Les Canadiens soulignent le jour du Souvenir](#)

Radio-Canada

Les Canadiens se sont rassemblés lundi près de cénotaphes et de monuments partout au pays pour rendre hommage à ceux qui ont pris les armes — et dans certains cas en ont payé le prix ultime — pour défendre ce pays et son mode de vie. À Ottawa, des milliers de personnes se sont donné rendez-vous au Monument commémoratif de guerre du Canada à l'occasion du jour du Souvenir, qui commémore l'armistice ayant mis fin à la Première Guerre mondiale. [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Green On! Go!: Canada's Airborne Artillery](#)

The history of those Members of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery, known as the Airborne Gunners, who volunteered and risked all, in parachute, and glider operations, in peace and war. With extensive photographs, maps and illustrations, [this book details who they were, what they did and why, when, where and how they did it.](#)

Authors Brian Reid and Dai Chaplin tell the story of members of The Royal Canadian Artillery who chose to become paratroopers. The authors delve skillfully into the early days of the Second World War through to the demise of the Artillery Airborne role in the mid 1990s. This highly readable book deals with aspects largely unknown to most Canadians and few military historians.

The intriguing adventures of artillery paratroopers during the Second World War and the continuing role of Airborne Gunners in the 1950s and 60s established a unique foundation that reached a zenith when the Artillery Battery became a vital component of the Canadian Airborne Regiment.

Airborne Gunners were always soldiers first, and everything else flowed from that. Because of their dedication to basic soldiering, they not only maintained extraordinarily high technical skills but also, when the operation demanded it, they were able to skillfully convert to what was essentially an infantry role. They proved that during the FLQ Crisis and during the Montreal Olympics but especially during the deployment of the Battery in Cyprus when they were plunged into the midst of the fighting, following the Turkish invasion. Simply put, they proved to be every bit as good or better than any Infantry unit that served on the island.

The other aspect that is very clear when you read through this history is the very simple fact that universally, the leaders at every level in the Airborne Battery put their profession ahead of everything else. They made the assumption that by providing high professional standards, their career would take care of itself. The result was reflected in the operational efficiency of the Battery and the very high morale of all ranks that essentially became the standard for the other members of the Canadian Airborne Regiment.

Every Army Leader should read this book. Every Canadian should read this book.

[Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Drop is back](#)

Canadian Military Family Magazine

Oct. 25th marked the beginning of The Royal Canadian Legion's National Poppy Campaign. Each year, the campaign begins on the last Friday of October and runs until Remembrance Day. "This period of Remembrance is a sacred time in Canada," says Legion Dominion President Thomas D. Irvine. "It is imperative that we all spend time over the coming days learning the stories of our Veterans, and thinking about the ultimate sacrifices they made so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have in Canada today." [READ MORE](#)

[Indigenous war hero, remembering Tommy Prince](#)

Kelowna Daily Courier

Tommy Prince, Canada's most-decorated Indigenous war hero, died homeless in Winnipeg in 1977 at the age of 62. It's a startling and important story of contrasts that has to be told in this time of Canada's reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. And this story has a strong Okanagan tie-in, with three generations of Prince's descendants now living in West Kelowna. [READ MORE](#)

[Le jour du Souvenir dans le regard d'enfants de militaires](#)

Radio-Canada

Le jour du Souvenir est un jour bien particulier pour de nombreux Canadiens, vétérans ou militaires en fonction, mais aussi pour bon nombre d'enfants. Deux jeunes filles, enfants de militaires, posent leur regard sur ce que représente pour elles cette journée de commémoration. « Je n'ai jamais manqué une année, dit Laurie Ménard, élève de dixième année à l'École Victor-Brodeur, à Victoria, et fille de

militaires. Ça me fait penser à mes parents, parce que mon père et ma mère sont allés sur plusieurs déploiements et je pleure d'habitude. C'est un moment pour penser à remercier tous les autres parents et ceux avant nous qui se sont battus pour notre pays. » [LIRE PLUS](#)

Retired colonel Mark Gasparotto makes leadership his business

Ottawa Sun

Mark Gasparotto's leadership skills were put to test during two tours of duty in the crucible of Afghanistan. "I think the experience of going to war — any time you're on operation — the environment is so pure from a leadership perspective," says Gasparotto, who retired from the military in 2017 after a much-decorated, 20-year career. "The feedback loops are quick and violent and you know very quickly what works and what doesn't work. It made me very good at it, so translating that into helping others was a very natural evolution for me. That's why I do what I do now that I'm retired." [READ MORE](#)

The resilience and agility of women in leadership

JD Supra

I recently moderated a panel of three inspiring women leaders from the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), who spoke candidly about their career challenges and triumphs. The discussion was part of the second annual True Patriot Love Captain Nichola Goddard Fund Reception, hosted at Bennett Jones in Toronto on October 30. One of the panel members was Master Warrant Officer Erica Oliver, E.L. MMM, CD, the first female servicewoman to qualify as a combat diver in the CAF, among many career accomplishments. [READ MORE](#)

Une carte sans combats sur «Fortnite» pour commémorer l'Armistice

Le Soleil

Les adeptes du très populaire jeu en ligne «Fortnite» ont été encouragés lundi à déposer les armes virtuelles pour commémorer l'Armistice dans une carte sans combats conçue avec les anciens combattants canadiens. La Légion royale canadienne s'est associée à l'entreprise de marketing numérique Wunderman Thompson et au créateur de contenu Jadan Allen pour concevoir une «île du souvenir» virtuelle pour ce jeu aux quelque 250 millions d'adeptes dans le monde. [LIRE PLUS](#)

'Enjoy your freedom. A lot of people paid for it,' veteran tells students

Guelph Today

As the annual Guelph Veterans Panel recently commenced at Our Lady of Lourdes, trustee Joe Tersigni placed an empty chair beside the 10 veterans present. "Every year, there are less and less World War II veterans," said Tersigni who placed the chair in the memory of those veterans who attended the panel in the past. Tersigni was a former history teacher at the high school and has been organizing this event every year since its inception. [READ MORE](#)

Remembrance Day: Canada's First Nations soldiers

Cowichan Valley Citizen

We're living in the age of Reconciliation. For the first time, many Canadians have turned the telescope around and are viewing their country and its history from the viewpoint of its Indigenous peoples. It's been a long, long road from the racism and segregation of colonialism to reach this point and we've a

long way to go. A good stepping-stone towards Reconciliation is the correction of a long overdue omission in our military heritage: Honouring the contributions made by Indigenous servicemen in both world wars and Korea. [READ MORE](#)

'All in the same fraternity': Retired surgeon general runs all-veteran family practice

CTV News

Though he retired from military service years ago, one former surgeon general is still answering the medical call of duty. Dr. Hans Jung's family practice near Ottawa treats exclusively veteran patients. "The bond, even if I've never seen them once before, is immediate," he told CTV National News. "There is a sense we are all in the same fraternity." [READ MORE](#)