

VA Community Care Secondary Authorization Request (SAR) VA Form 10-10434e

Background: A request for additional medical services for Veterans receiving authorized medical services from a Veterans Choice Program (VCP) community provider is referred to as a “secondary authorization request (SAR)”. Currently, these requests are communicated between the VA community provider and contractor. As we prepare to implement two major VCP projects, VA Provider Agreement and Alaska VA Scheduling Pilot, communication and requests for additional services (SAR) for Veterans will take place directly between community providers and VA staff.

VA Form 10-10434e, (Secondary Authorization Request), provides a standardized communication tool for secondary authorization requests from VA Community providers directly to VA staff. The SAR is an essential part of collecting care information, and plays a significant role in Veterans Choice Program (VCP) initiatives. Without expedited approval, VCP project implementation would leave community providers with no mechanism to request additional services for Veterans currently under their care.

VA Provider Agreement: Providers new to the VA healthcare system under Provider Agreements will utilize the form to request additional services for Veterans currently under their care. This information gathering requires a standard communication tool for community providers to request care for Veterans and provide complete and accurate information to VA the first time to ensure timely response, care coordination and ultimately, the success of national deployment for Provider Agreements.

The Secondary Authorization Request Form (SAR) is an integral component of VA community care coordination activities for both projects. The form ensures that information is communicated consistently across the nation between community providers and VA staff. Without OMB-approval of VA Form 10-10434e, VA Provider Agreement and Alaska Scheduling Pilot project operations will rely on nonstandard methods for providers to communicate with VA staff. Project delays could result in delays in care coordination, significant delays in processing community providers’ requests, and result in general dissatisfaction among community providers.