



## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS/COMMUNICATION TALKING POINTS PHARMACY – ELECTRONIC DRUG MONOGRAPHS**

**BACKGROUND:** Through a partnership between DHA and VUCA Health, DHA Pharmacies have the ability to print QR codes onto prescription vials, which provides beneficiaries with information regarding their prescription and other related resources.

This idea was implemented in Air Force pharmacies in 2019 with the purchase of a license. In the beginning of 2021, DHA's Pharmacy Operations Division (POD) expanded this license to all of DHA's pharmacies, with implementations occurring throughout 2022. Benefits to this effort include reduction in the use of paper, as well as providing beneficiaries with an easier way to access details regarding their prescription and additional resources. Paper monographs will still be available upon request for those who may not have electronic means to access their prescription information.

### **KEY MESSAGES:**

- Earlier in 2021, DHA's Pharmacy Operations Division expanded a license with VUCA that allows pharmacies to print QR codes onto prescription vials which will take place of printed drug monographs.
- Throughout 2022, military pharmacies will be implementing the use of these QR codes. Schedule of implementation will vary depending on the vendors of the individual military pharmacy.
- Paper drug monographs will still be available to beneficiaries upon request.
- Scanning the QR code on the prescription vials will direct patients to information regarding their information, as well as other related resources such as reminders for taking the prescription, education videos on the drug, and shareable links to share prescription information with friends, family, or medical members.

### **TALKING POINTS:**

- Military Treatment Facility (MTF) pharmacies will now be printing QR codes on prescription vials to provide beneficiaries information and education materials on their prescriptions.
- Paper drug monographs will still be available upon your request.
- Benefits in the use of electronic drug monographs include:
  - Allowing MTFs to be eco-friendly and cut down on the use of paper
  - Increasing the privacy of patient information
- The QR codes allow you to easily access more information regarding their prescription in an easy-to-understand way.
- Accessing this information is simple. Simply open your phone's camera, or any other QR code reader, and point it at the QR code about 6 inches away to scan.
- If a MedGuide is available for the prescription, a green box will appear when taken to the QR code's link.



- Upon scanning and being taken to the QR code's link, you are able to:
  - View your prescription's education sheets by tapping on the "Inform Me" button
  - Watch a brief video on their prescription by tapping on the drop down link
    - Most medication videos are available in both English and Spanish
  - Access tools that help remind you to take your medication by tapping the "Remind Me" button
  - Share information about your prescription with your family, friends, or healthcare members via a shareable link
- You are also able to access more DHA information after scanning the QR code by tapping "Connect Me." This will lead you to DHA's homepage.
- You are still encouraged to ask their pharmacists any questions you may have regarding your prescriptions.