

On December 12, 2017, concurrent hospice and curative care was legislatively mandated for children on TRICARE. Concurrent care is defined as hospice care that is received simultaneously with curative treatments. Pediatric concurrent care was included in the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2018 and was funded with the passing of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, which was signed on 23 March 2018. The National Defense Authorization Act modified the 10U.S. Code § 1079 (a)(15), which defines medical care for spouses and children of Armed Services personnel. The Code now states that (GovTrack, 2018; Legal Information Institute, 2018):

Hospice care may be provided only in the manner and under the conditions provided in section 1861(dd) of the Social Security Act ([42 U.S.C. 1395x\(dd\)](#)), except that hospice care may be provided to an individual under the age of 21 concurrently with health care services or hospitalization for the same condition.

Although pediatric concurrent care has been signed into law in 2017, TRICARE is currently assessing the implementation of concurrent care.

References

Govtrack. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2810/text/enr>

Legal Information Institute. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/10/1079>