

Dermatology: The Mohs for Military Program

The JMG Group LLC evaluated VA Choice Program data and market information and determined that Choice Program utilization for medical dermatological care was low despite increasing demand from Veterans for these services. According to a 2015 report by the VA Office of Inspector General (VA OIG), there is *a current backlog of 38,000+ Veterans across the nation in need of dermatological care* including Mohs surgery for skin cancers.

The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS) is the largest specialty organization in the United States exclusively representing dermatologic surgeons, who are uniquely trained and experienced to treat the health, function, and appearance of the skin throughout every stage of life. ASDS members are recognized as leaders in both medically necessary and cosmetic skin surgery.

In 2016 and early 2017, The JMG Group LLC worked with ASDS to develop its "Mohs for Military" Medical Dermatology Strategy to address Veterans' and TRICARE beneficiaries' dermatology needs.

The JMG Group LLC helped ASDS develop and position the organization to implement a strategy that would:

- Significantly reduced Veterans' time to service ("wait times") for dermatology services;
- Build dermatology network capabilities in areas with high need and low provider participation;
- Increase community-based healthcare provider participation by educating providers and assisting VA and TPAs in registering and credentialing them;
- Improve dermatology network "reliability", increasing Veterans' access and reducing wait times for dermatology services; and
- Improve regular, systematic communication and collaboration between VA, Health Net, and TriWest to facilitate access a national network of 6,100 medical dermatologists.

The efforts of The JMG Group have facilitated access to a nationwide network of qualified and credentialed specialty care providers. Even more important, JMG has worked with ASDS, VA, and TPAs in identifying access issues and is now prepared to help them rectify problems in areas where provider participation is not balanced to need.

