

Joint Travel Regulations Revisions

0330 VARIOUS TYPES OF MEDICAL TRAVEL

033001. *****

033013. Travel for Non-Covered Assisted Reproductive Technology

A. Policy. It is Department of Defense (DoD) policy that:

1. Service members should be permitted to access lawfully available non-covered Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART).

2. It is the responsibility of commanders or approval authorities to meet operational requirements and protect the health and safety of those in their care. Commanders or approval authorities are expected to display objectivity, compassion, and discretion when addressing all health care matters.

a. Consistent with existing law and Departmental policy, commanders will protect the privacy of protected health information they receive under this policy, as they should with any other protected health information. Such information must be restricted to personnel with a specific need to know; that is, access to the health information must be necessary for the conduct of official duties. Personnel must also be accountable for safeguarding this health information consistent with existing law and Departmental policy.

b. Service members must not be granted travel and transportation allowances under this paragraph if their intention is to sell, to offer for sale, or to receive proceeds from a sale resulting from an ART procedure.

B. Eligibility. Service members and authorized dependents are eligible for travel and transportation allowances in Chapter 2 to receive non-covered ART when timely access to non-covered ART is not available within the local area of the member's Permanent Duty Station (PDS), Temporary Duty (TDY) location, or the last location the dependent was transported on Government orders when authorized by the appropriate authority.

1. Non-covered ART. Travel and transportation allowances for Service members (including Active Duty Service members and Reserve Component Service members on active duty orders for 180 days or more) and spouses of such Service members receiving care may be authorized when the non-covered ART procedure is confirmed by documentation by the licensed health care provider or clinic that will be performing the ART services. Substantiating documentation provided by the traveler to the approving official (AO) must include details of the procedures to be performed, dates of consultation appointments and/or procedures, and include any of the following: identification of a treatment plan schedule, medical diagnosis, and patient names to verify eligibility.

2. Location. The Service member or dependent must certify in writing the location of the closest available, capable medical facility for the non-covered ART service. Certification should be provided to the traveler's AO in advance of travel. When a Service member or dependent uses a different location than the certified closest available, capable medical facility, a cost comparison is done to determine reimbursement. In this situation the certification must provide details on both the closest facility and the facility to be used. Travel reimbursement is limited to the cost to the closest available medical facility for the non-covered ART procedure if a different location is used. The transportation cost is compared to the constructed cost of transportation to the authorized location and the lesser of the two amounts is reimbursed. The per diem is limited to the lesser of the costs that would have been incurred for travel to the authorized location, or the amount listed in par. 033013-B.

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C. Allowances.

1. The Service member is authorized the standard travel and transportation allowances in par. 033001.

2. An eligible dependent may be authorized the following:

a. The actual cost of lodging (including tax, tips, and service charges) limited to the lodging portion of the locality per diem rate at the non-covered ART service care location.

b. The actual cost of meals (including taxes and tips, but excluding alcoholic beverages) and incidental expenses, limited to the maximum meal rate and incidental expenses (M&IE) portion of the locality per diem rate at the non-covered ART service care location.

c. Round-trip transportation between the member's PDS or the last location the dependent was transported on Government orders and the non-covered ART service care location.

d. An invitational travel authorization (ITA) will be used to reimburse travel and transportation expenses authorized dependent and must be issued judiciously to ensure prudent, proper and ethical use of appropriated funds. See section 0305.

3. Attendant or Escort. If a Service member or dependent is incapable of traveling alone, standard travel and transportation allowances in Chapter 2 are authorized for one or more necessary escorts. An attendant may also be authorized round-trip travel and transportation allowances, if required. The authorization for an attendant or escort must be cited on the travel authorization.

a. An attendant or escort is authorized the standard travel and transportation allowances in Chapter 2.

b. A Service member or civilian employee serving as an attendant or escort travels under a TDY order.

c. A non-Government civilian serving as an attendant or escort must be issued an ITA and be legitimately performing a direct service for the Government. See section 0305.

4. Accompanying Dependent.

a. The AO may authorize an accompanying dependent who is neither an attendant nor escort if all of the following conditions apply:

(1) The accompanying dependent is a command-sponsored dependent at the PDS OCONUS and incapable of self-support.

(2) No suitable care arrangements can be made at the PDS.

(3) The travel is in the Government's interest.

b. An accompanying dependent is limited to round-trip transportation between the member's PDS or the last location the dependent was transported on Government orders and the non-covered ART service care location.

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c. No per diem is payable and any further travel costs are the financial responsibility of the Service member.

d. This authority should be used as a last resort.

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APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

This Appendix contains definitions and acronyms used in the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR).

NON-COVERED ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY (ART) includes only the following components:

A. Ovarian stimulation and egg retrieval, including any needed medications and procedures required for retrieval, processing and utilization for ART or cryopreservation.

B. Sperm collection and processing for ART or cryopreservation.

C. Intrauterine insemination.

D. In vitro fertilization.

B. Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
ADT	Active Duty for Training
AEA	Actual Expense Allowance
AMC	Air Mobility Command
AO	Authorizing/Order-Issuing Official or Approving Official
AOR	Area of Responsibility
<u>ART</u>	<u>Assisted Reproductive Technology</u>
AT	Annual Training