

**“I'm receiving Tri care from the VA permanently, do I need part B Medicare to visit or live?  
Does all hospitals there take Tri care?”**

Pags, There seems to be some confusion in your healthcare views here. Hopefully I can clear some of that briefly, but likely you will have some remaining questions. First you need to recognize the 4 healthcare options the U S government provides here. I would suggest you Google each program for a better understanding, or for contact info to get specific answers.

1. VA Service connected care. If you are rated for a condition, you can use the Manila OPC for care, if they have the facilities to do so. If they dont you can use FMP Foreign Medical Program, for care by local providers. Being 100% P&T, does not mean every malady you have is covered, it means VA has found you disabled in certain physical or mental areas which you developed while in service. It does not mean you have healthcare for all of your maladies but only those which are found service connected. For all other maladies, you would have to use other healthcare.
2. CHAMPVA. beneficiaries are the spouses, widow(er)s, or children of a qualifying Veteran sponsor. It does not provide you and healthcare coverage.
3. MEDICARE, Medicare is not used directly here in the Philippines, it is limited to the US and territories. Although you can not use it here directly, you must maintain Parts A & B to continue eligibility for Tricare for life (over 65) for yourself and CHAMPVA for your family. If you cancel your Part B you will no longer be eligible for Tricare. Although you cant use Medicare here, you have to retain Part B, because it pays for Tricare for life enrollment. All other Tricare enrollment program fees here (SELECT) you pay directly to Tricare.
4. TRICARE, eligibility is for retired Veterans and their families, and some medically retired Veterans. It is a separate and distinct program and is not related or regulated by VA. If you are 65+, you are in Tricare for life, and again you must have Medicare part B to maintain eligibility.

I may have missed some particulars in these (which I'm sure some others will quickly point out, but this is the simplest explanation I can provide) I wish best of luck and health in your future.