

Specialized Treatment Services

II. STSF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. STSF NAS

The STSF will:

1. Upon official designation, either provide the *Specialized Treatment Service (STS)* or issue an STSF NAS *as provided in this Chapter*. STSF NAS will be issued when the required care exceeds the capacity of the STSF, and even though exempt from the STSF NAS requirement, when care in the STSF would be medically inappropriate or when undue personal or family hardship would result from the provision of care by the STSF.

NOTE:

(1) An STSF NAS is not required for TRICARE Prime enrollees even when these beneficiaries use the Point of Service (POS) option. If the STSF cannot provide the STS to a TRICARE Prime enrollee, the enrollee shall be referred to the Health Care Finder for issuance of an authorization for care from another appropriate provider. (See the NOTE under Section III.A.9. of this Chapter.)

(2) If the STS claimed by a Prime enrollee otherwise meet TRICARE coverage criteria, a contractor shall apply POS cost-sharing provisions (including applicable deductible amounts) to STS for which an enrollee self-refers and has not received a Health Care Finder authorization.

2. Use the DD Form 1251, Oct 90, (or later editions) when issuing STSF NASs.

3. Ensure that all STSF NASs contain an 11-digit control number that indicates the DMIS facility identifier, the Julian date the form is issued, and the facility sequence number. (NOTE: This is the same format now used for inpatient NAS.)

4. Enter the retroactive effective date (usually the admission date) for all retroactive STSF NAS issuances. These retroactive STSF NASs can be identified on DEERS by the numbers 900-999 in the last three digits of the STSF NAS number. Additionally, the STSF will also enter the retroactive effective date and the discharge date in the "REMARKS" section of the hardcopy DD Form 1251.

5. Issue a hardcopy of the STSF NAS to the TRICARE eligible beneficiary to be given to the provider at the time services are rendered.

6. Maintain a hardcopy of the STSF NAS on file.

7. Enter the STSF NAS information into DEERS on the day of issuance unless there is equipment failure in which case the STSF NAS information will be entered immediately upon system access.

8. Refer the beneficiary (whose care falls under the jurisdiction of a Managed Care Support Contractor) to the Health Care Finder when unable to provide the care.

B. Listing of STSFs

A listing of current designated STSFs, the STSF designated procedures and associated DRG's and the effective dates are located at [Section IV](#). of this Chapter.