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MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

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**CHANGE 18  
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OCTOBER 29, 2009**

**PUBLICATIONS SYSTEM CHANGE TRANSMITTAL  
FOR  
TRICARE POLICY MANUAL (TPM), FEBRUARY 2008**

The TRICARE Management Activity has authorized the following addition(s)/revision(s).

**CHANGE TITLE:** FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS FOLLOWING SEXUAL ASSAULT OR  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**CONREQ:** 14835

**PAGE CHANGE(S):** See page 2.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S):** This change implements the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, Section 701, authorizing coverage for forensic examinations, including early evidence kits, in Civilian Health Care (CHC) facilities following sexual assault or domestic violence.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 17, 2006.

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Upon direction of the Contracting Officer.

**This change is made in conjunction with Feb 2008 TOM, Change No. 14 and Feb 2008 TRM, Change No. 19.**

  
**Rita Michalek  
Acting Chief, Medical Benefits and  
Reimbursement Branch**

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24.1	Phase II And Phase III Cancer Clinical Trials
25.1	Dermoscopy
<b>26.1</b>	<b>Forensic Examinations Following Sexual Assault or Domestic Violence</b>



## Forensic Examinations Following Sexual Assault or Domestic Violence

Issue Date: October 29, 2009  
Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(e\)\(27\)](#)

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### 1.0 BACKGROUND

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, Public Law 109-364, directs the Secretary of Defense to establish a benefit for forensic examinations in Civilian Health Care (CHC) facilities following a sexual assault or domestic violence for eligible beneficiaries. All beneficiaries are covered if they are examined in a Military Treatment Facility (MTF). Prior to passage of this law, forensic examinations were not covered for beneficiaries in CHC facilities because TRICARE may cost-share only medically or psychologically necessary services or supplies. Forensic examinations were not considered medically or psychologically necessary because the purpose of the examination is primarily for preservation of evidence for use by the justice system. However, the forensic examination process serves a dual purpose: one, to address the medical needs of the victim; and two, to collect and preserve forensic evidence for use in any future criminal investigation and/or prosecution. Congress acknowledged this dual purpose by establishing this benefit to allow CHC facilities to receive reimbursement for these examinations. This benefit is consistent with the services that are authorized in medical MTFs for all beneficiaries who are victims of sexual assault or domestic violence.

### 2.0 DESCRIPTION

Forensic examinations are conducted following a sexual assault or domestic violence to provide medical care to the individual disclosing the sexual assault or domestic violence and to collect and preserve forensic evidence for use by the justice system. An evidence collection kit (also known as a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) kit or evidence recovery kit) is used during the examination to collect and preserve the forensic evidence.

### 3.0 POLICY

Effective October 17, 2006, forensic examinations, including evidence collection kits, are covered when provided in CHC facilities following a sexual assault or domestic violence. TRICARE pays for and will continue to pay for all emergency room services delivered to a victim.

### 4.0 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

#### 4.1 Forensic examinations include:

##### 4.1.1 Evaluating and treating injuries;

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- 4.1.2** Conducting prompt examinations to include collection of forensic evidence;
- 4.1.3** Providing support, crisis intervention, and advocacy;
- 4.1.4** Providing prophylaxis against sexually transmitted diseases and HIV;
- 4.1.5** Assessing female patients for pregnancy risk and discussing treatment options, including reproductive health services; and
- 4.1.6** Providing follow-up care for medical and emotional needs.

**4.2** Evidence collection kits for collection of forensic evidence should/may reflect the requirements of the jurisdiction in which the examination takes place. Items in the kit may include but are not limited to:

- 4.2.1** Forms for documentation of what is observed;
- 4.2.2** Tubes for blood samples or DNA blood cards;
- 4.2.3** Urine sample container (for detecting drugs that may have been used to facilitate a sexual assault);
- 4.2.4** Cotton swabs for biological evidence collection;
- 4.2.5** Sterile water;
- 4.2.6** Sterile saline;
- 4.2.7** Glass slides;
- 4.2.8** Unwaxed dental floss;
- 4.2.9** Wooden stick for fingernail scrapings;
- 4.2.10** Envelopes or boxes for individual evidence samples, including the victim's clothing;
- 4.2.11** Labels for each item and paper bags for clothing collection;
- 4.2.12** Large sheet of paper for patient to undress over; and
- 4.2.13** New clothing to temporarily replace victim's clothing.

**4.3 Privacy and Confidentiality**

**4.3.1** Claims processors and contractors are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974, Health Insurance and Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Department of Defense (DoD) Health Information Privacy Regulation (6025.18-R) regarding use and disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI) and Personally Identifiable Information (PII) for victims of sexual assault or domestic violence.

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**4.3.2** DoD Directive (DoDD) Number 6495.01 dated November 7, 2008, "Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program," will apply as appropriate in regard to restricted and unrestricted reporting of sexual assaults.

**4.3.3** Claims processors and contractors shall not issue Explanations of Benefits (EOBs) to beneficiaries (parents/guardians of minors or incompetents) when claims involve services related to sexual assault or domestic violence. Refer to TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM), [Chapter 8, Section 8, paragraphs 5.1 and 6.0](#) for information regarding EOB issuance exceptions and beneficiary notification of claim action.

**4.3.4** Reimbursement shall be made according to TRICARE Reimbursement Manual (TRM), [Chapter 1, Section 36](#).

**5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE**

Forensic examinations and evidence collection kits for services provided in a CHC facility on or after October 17, 2006.

- END -



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## Appendix A

### Acronyms And Abbreviations

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ROVER	RHHI Outcomes and Assessment Information Set Verification
RPM	Record Processing Mode
RRA	Regional Review Authority
RTC	Residential Treatment Center
RUG	Resource Utilization Group
RV	Residual Volume
RVU	Relative Value Unit
SAAR	System Authorization Access Request
SAD	Seasonal Affective Disorder
SADMERC	Statistical Analysis Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier
<b>SAFE</b>	<b>Sexual Assault Forensic Examination</b>
SAO	Security Assistant Organizations
SAP	Special Access Program
<b>SAPR</b>	<b>Sexual Assault Prevention and Response</b>
SAS	Sensory Afferent Stimulation
SAT	Service Assist Team
SBCC	Service Branch Classification Code
SBI	Special Background Investigation
SCH	Sole Community Hospital
SCHIP	State Children's Health Insurance Program
SCI	Sensitive Compartmented Information Spinal Cord Injury
SCIC	Significant Change in Condition
SCOO	Special Contracts and Operations Office
SCR	Stell Cell Rescue
S/D	Security Division
SD (Form)	Secretary of Defense (Form)
SEP	Sensory Evoked Potentials
SES	Senior Executive Service
SelRes	Selected Reserve
SF	Standard Form
SGDs	Speech Generating Devices
SHCP	Supplemental Health Care Program
SI	Sensitive Information Small Intestine (transplant) Special Indicator (code) Status Indicator
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
SIF	Source Input Format
SII	Special Investigative Inquiry
SI/L	Small Intestine-Live (transplant)
SIOP-ESI	Single Integrated Operational plan-Extremely Sensitive Information
SIP	System Identification Profile

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SIT	Standard Insurance Table
SMC	System Management Center
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility
SNS	Sacral Nerve Root Stimulation
SOC	Start of Care
SOFA	Status Of Forces Agreement
SOIC	Senior Officer of the Intelligence Community
SON	Submitting Office Number
SOR	Statement of Reasons
SPA	Simple Power Analysis
SPECT	Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography
SPK	Simultaneous Pancreas Kidney (transplant)
SPOC	Service Point of Contact
SPR	SECRET Periodic Reinvestigation
SQL	Structured Query Language
SRE	Serious Reportable Event
SSA	Social Security Act Social Security Administration
SSAA	Social Security Authorization Agreement
SSAN	Social Security Administration Number
SSBI	Single-Scope Background Investigation
SSL	Secure Socket Layer
SSM	Site Security Manager
SSN	Social Security Number
SSO	Short-Stay Outlier
ST	Speech Therapy
STF	Specialized Treatment Facility
STS	Specialized Treatment Services
STSF	Specialized Treatment Service Facility
SUBID	Sub-Identifier
SUDRF	Substance Use Disorder Rehabilitation Facility
SVO	SIT Validation Office
SVT	Supraventricular Tachycardia
SWLS	Satisfaction With Life Scale
TAD	Temporary Additional Duty
TAFIM	Technical Architecture Framework for Information Management
TAMP	Transitional Assistance Management Program
TAO	TRICARE Alaska Office TRICARE Area Office
TAR	Total Ankle Replacement
TARO	TRICARE Alaska Regional Office
TB	Tuberculosis

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TBD	To Be Determined
TBE	Tick Borne Encephalitis
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TC	Technical Component
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
TCSRC	Transitional Care for Service-Related Conditions
TDEFIC	TRICARE Dual Eligible Fiscal Intermediary Contract
TDP	TRICARE Dental Plan
TDY	Temporary Duty
TED	TRICARE Encounter Data
TEE	Transesophageal Echocardiograph
TEFRA	Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act
TEOB	TRICARE Explanation of Benefits
TEPRC	TRICARE Encounter Pricing (Record)
TEPRV	TRICARE Encounter Provider (Record)
TET	Tubal Embryo Transfer
TF	Transfer Factor
TFL	TRICARE For Life
TFMDP	TRICARE (Active Duty) Family Member Dental Plan
TGRO	TRICARE Global Remote Overseas
TGROHC	TGRO Host Country
TIFF	Tagged Imaged File Format
TIL	Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes
TIMPO	Tri-Service Information Management Program Office
TIN	Taxpayer Identification Number
TIPS	Transjugular Intrahepatic Portosystemic Shunt
TIS	TRICARE Information Service
TLAC	TRICARE Latin America/Canada
TLC	Total Lung Capacity
TMA	TRICARE Management Activity
TMA-A	TRICARE Management Activity - Aurora
TMAC	TRICARE Maximum Allowable Charge
TMCPA	Temporary Military Contingency Payment Adjustment
TMH	Telemental Health
TMI&S	Technology Management Integration & Standards
TMOP	TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy
TMR	Transmyocardial Revascularization
TNEX	TRICARE Next Generation (MHS Systems)
TOB	Type of Bill
TOE	Target of Evaluation
TOL	TRICARE Online

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TOM	August 2002 TRICARE Operations Manual 6010.51-M February 2008 TRICARE Operations Manual 6010.56-M
TOP	TRICARE Overseas Program
TPA	Third Party Administrator
TPC	Third Party Collections
TPharm	TRICARE Pharmacy
TPL	Third Party Liability
TPM	August 2002 TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.54-M February 2008 TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.57-M
TPN	Total Parenteral Nutrition
TPOCS	Third Party Outpatient Collections System
TPR	TRICARE Prime Remote
TPRADFM	TRICARE Prime Remote Active Duty Family Member
TPRADSM	TRICARE Prime Remote Active Duty Service Member
TPRC	TRICARE Puerto Rico Contract(or)
TQMC	TRICARE Quality Monitoring Contractor
TRDP	TRICARE Retiree Dental Program
TRI	TED Record Indicator
TRM	August 2002 TRICARE Reimbursement Manual 6010.55-M February 2008 TRICARE Reimbursement Manual 6010.58-M
TRO	TRICARE Regional Office
TRPB	TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Benefits
TRRx	TRICARE Retail Pharmacy
TRS	TRICARE Reserve Select
TRSA	TRICARE Reserve Select Application
TSC	TRICARE Service Center
TSF	Target of Evaluation Security Functions
TSM	August 2002 TRICARE Systems Manual 7950.1-M February 2008 TRICARE Systems Manual 7950.2-M
TSP	Target of Evaluation Security Policy
TSR	TRICARE Select Reserve
TSRDP	TRICARE Select Reserve Dental Program
TSRx	TRICARE Senior Pharmacy
TSS	TRICARE Senior Supplement
TSSD	TRICARE Senior Supplement Demonstration
TTPA	Temporary Transitional Payment Adjustment
TTY	Teletypewriter
TUNA	Transurethral Needle Ablation
UAE	Uterine Artery Embolization
UB	Uniform Bill
UBO	Uniform Business Office
UCBT	Umbilical Cord Blood Stem Cell Transplantation
UCC	Uniform Commercial Code

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UCCI	United Concordia Companies, Inc.
UCSF	University of California San Francisco
UIC	Unit Identification Code
UIN	Unit Identifier Number
UM	Utilization Management
UMO	Utilization Management Organization
UMP	User Maintenance Portal
UPIN	Unique Physician Identification Number
URF	Unremarried Former Spouses
URL	Universal Resource Locator
US	Ultrasound United States
USA	United States of America
USACID	United States Army Criminal Investigation Division
USAF	United States Air Force
USAO	United States Attorneys' Office
USC	United States Code
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USCO	Uniformed Services Claim Office
USD	Undersecretary of Defense
USD (P&R)	Undersecretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)
USDI	Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence
USFHP	Uniformed Services Family Health Plan
USHBP	Uniformed Services Health Benefit Plan
USMC	United States Marine Corps
USMTF	Uniformed Services Medical Treatment Facility
USN	United States Navy
USPDI	United States Pharmacopoeia Drug Information
USPHS	United States Public Health Service
USPS	United States Postal Service
USPSTF	U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
USS	United Seaman's Service
USTF	Uniformed Services Treatment Facility
UV	Ultraviolet
VA	Veterans Affairs (hospital) Veterans Administration
VAD	Ventricular Assist Device
VAMC	VA Medical Center
VATS	Video-Assisted Thoroscopic Surgery
VAX-D	Vertebral Axial Decompression
VD	Venereal Disease
VO	Verifying Office (Official)

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VPN	Virtual Private Network
VPOC	Verification Point of Contact
VRDX	Reason Visit Diagnosis
VSAM	Virtual Storage Access Method
VSD	Ventricular Septal Defect
WAC	Wholesale Acquisition Cost
WAN	Wide Area Network
WATS	Wide Area Telephone Service
WC	Worker's Compensation
WEDI	Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children (Program)
WII	Wounded, Ill, and Injured
WLAN	Wireless Local Area Network
WORM	Write Once Read Many
WRAMC	Walter Reed Army Medical Center
WTC	World Trade Center
WTRR	Wire Transfer Reconciliation Report
WTU	Warrior Transition Unit
X-Linked SCID	X-Linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Syndrome
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
ZIFT	Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer
2D	Two Dimensional
3D	Three Dimensional

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