



**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION
AND RESPONSE OFFICE**

**FACT SHEET:
PAYMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMS
FOR MILITARY MEMBERS AND BENEFICIARIES**

What is a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE)?

It is a medical and forensic examination of a sexual assault victim. During the SAFE, evidence is collected that could be used in court.

If I am an Active Duty Service member, do I have to pay for a SAFE?

No. Forensic examinations are paid for Active Duty members by using supplemental health care funds.

If I am a beneficiary of a military member, do I have to pay for a SAFE?

No, there is no cost for a SAFE if your care is provided at a military Medical Treatment Facility (MTF).

TRICARE pays for all services (including a SAFE) if your care is provided at a civilian hospital or facility (including civilian rape crisis facilities).

The 2007 National Defense Authorization Act authorizes TRICARE payment for SAFEs following a sexual assault or domestic violence for eligible beneficiaries. It became effective as of 17 August 2009 and applies to services provided on or after October 17, 2006.

If you encounter a problem with payment for a SAFE and you are in the military or a military beneficiary, please contact TRICARE at www.tricare.mil.