

VA Care in the Community

South Texas Veterans Health Care System

- DOD Sharing Agreements
- Veterans Choice Program
- Community Care Contracts
- Non-VA Community Care
- Unauthorized Care/Mill Bill

**South Texas
Veterans
Health Care
System**

Department of Veterans Affairs



Helpful Web Links

Overview of Non-VA Medical Care:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-01.pdf

Emergency Care for Veterans:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-02.pdf

Claims Process Emergency Medical

Services:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-03.pdf

Ambulance Transport at VA Expense:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-05.pdf

VA Community Care—Choice Billing Issues:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-08.pdf

Veterans Choice Program (VCP)

Overview:

https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/pubfiles/factsheets/FactSheet_20-09.pdf

South Texas Veterans Health Care System:

<http://www.southtexas.va.gov/index.asp>



Points of Contact

Veterans Choice Program (TRIWEST)

1-866-606-8198

Patient-Centered Care Contract (TRIWEST)

1-855-722-2838

VISN 17 Payment Center for Non-VA Care:

San Antonio VA Fee
PO Box 460
Bonham, TX 75418
903-583-6363

STX Community Care Office:

210-617-5300 ext 13850

AUDIE L. MURPHY VA HOSPITAL
7400 Merton Minter
San Antonio, TX 78229
210-617-5300 | 877-469-5300

KERRVILLE VA HOSPITAL
3600 Memorial Blvd
Kerrville, TX 78028
866-487-1653

DOD Sharing Agreements

- Limited services are available through DOD Sharing Agreements at the San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC) and Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC)
- A consult for care is required by a VA provider. VA creates the authorization for care and sends to the DOD partner.
- DOD schedules the appointment or procedure with the Veteran directly.
- DOD submits the claim to the VA through the STX Payment Center in Bonham.



VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM



Choice Programs:

- **Choice 30** - For Veterans waiting >30 days from the clinically indicated date for a VA appointment
- **Choice 40** - For Veterans whose primary residence is >40 miles driving distance from the nearest VA with one full-time PCP
- **Choice Unusual/Excessive Burden** - For Veterans with:
 - (aa) Geographic Challenges
 - (bb) Environmental factors
 - (cc) Medical condition(A VA Consult is required.)

For all questions about Choice or to schedule/reschedule an appointment, call TriWest at 1-866-606-8198.

Non-VA Care

A preauthorization for treatment in the community is required for non-VA medical care, unless the medical event is an emergency.

In the event of an emergency/ hospital admission...

Veterans *do not* need authorization from a VA facility for emergency treatment.

However, VA must be notified within 72 hours of Admission/ER visit.

The Veteran can call:

- Veteran's Primary Care Provider/PACT
- Telecare @ 210-949-3994 or 1-888-686-6350
- Transfer Coordinator (during normal hours) @ 210-617-5184
- AOD (after hours) @ 210-617-5300 ext 15162 or 15940

****Hospital notification does **NOT** guarantee VA payment, but it is a necessary piece of the billing and claims process.****

If applicable, the VA pays the community provider through the STX Payment Center in Bonham, TX at (903) 583-6363.

If treatment is available at a VA facility Veteran will be required to transfer at the point of stabilization.