



Ethical Advocacy for Autistic Beneficiaries: TRICARE Challenges and Solutions

Presented by:

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June 6, 2022

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Tricare Webinar

Ethical Advocacy for
Autistic Beneficiaries:
TRICARE Challenges and
Solutions



1 BACB Ethics CEU

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Monday | June 6 | 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Eastern

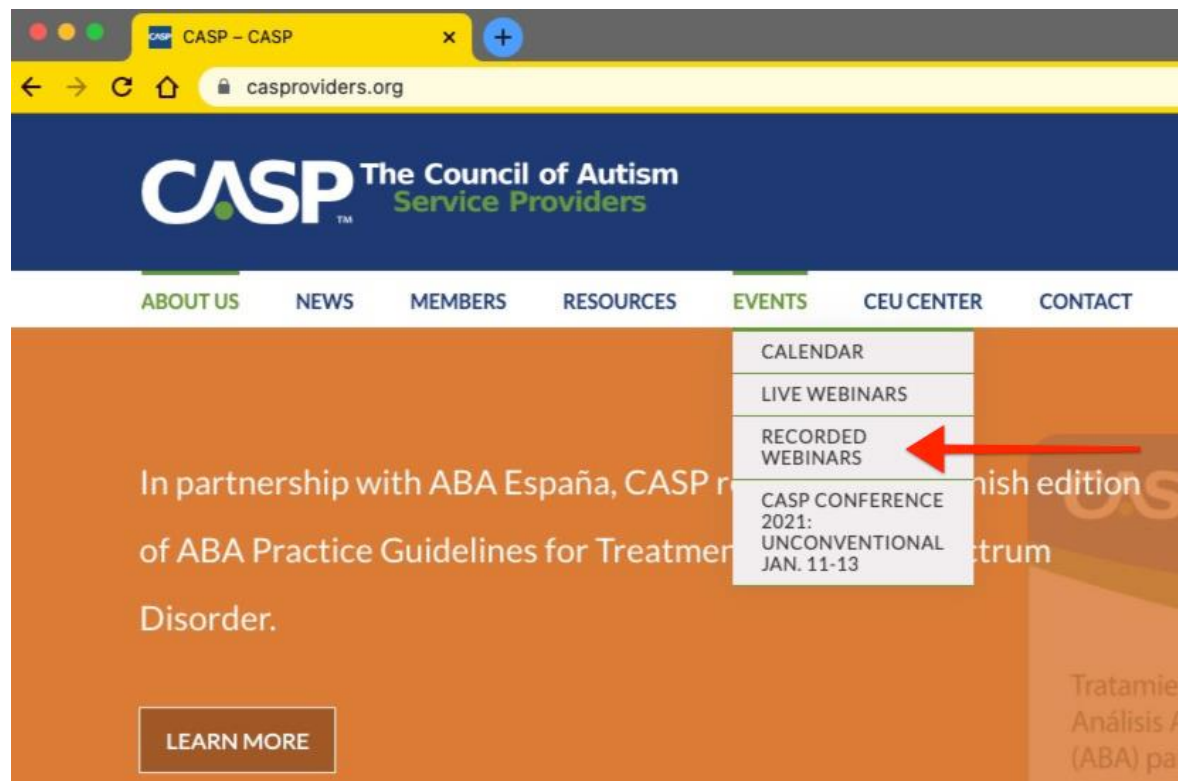
Housekeeping

Please submit your questions and monitor for responses in the **Q&A box**

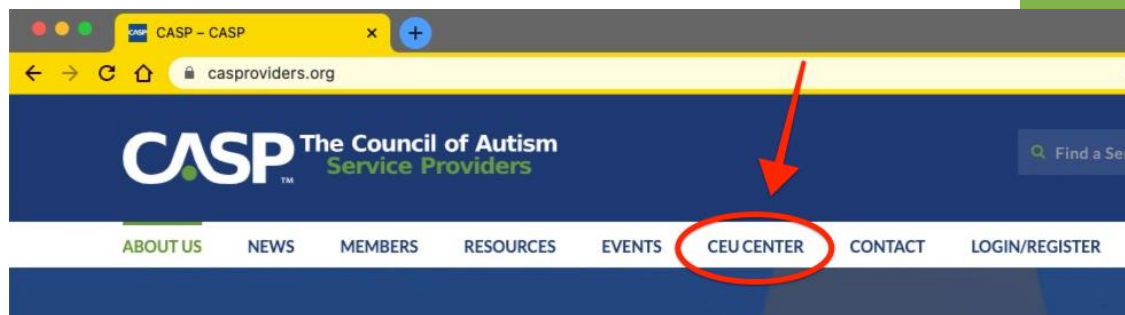
Please limit use of the **chat box** for comments

There is 1 BACB Ethics CEU for this webinar

CASP Recorded Webinars



CASP Online CEU Center



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM
THE COUNCIL OF AUTISM SERVICE PROVIDERS

CASP CEU Center Discount

CASP Members continue to get free CEU

Non-Members get a 22% discount
on all CEU courses when entering
the coupon code **"CASP2022"** at checkout.

A promotional banner for the CASP Online CEU Center. On the left, a blue circular badge contains the text "OFFER EXPIRES JANUARY 31, 2022". The banner features the CASP logo and the text "Online CEU Center". Below this, it states: "A repository of recorded CASP webinars offering Learning CEUs to BCBA and BCaBA certificants." and "To view our library of webinars and other educational material without receiving CEU, please return to the CASP website." At the bottom left is the ACE logo with the text "CASP is a BACB Authorized Continuing Education (ACE) Provider". On the right, a woman is sitting on a ledge, smiling while using a laptop.

Agenda

- Ethical core principles and advocacy
- Ethical standards and TRICARE
- Advocacy strategy
- How you can help

Disclaimer

Neither the BACB nor the DHA have not reviewed or approved the content of this presentation. This presentation should not serve as a substitute for policy interpretation or professional legal advice.

Core Principles of Behavior Analysts and Advocacy

Benefits Others

-
- Focus on the short - and long-term effects of your professional activities
 - Collaboration is key
 - Identify and address the negative impacts of your own physical and mental health on your professional activities
 - Check yourself
 - Differentiate personal feelings from professional concerns
 - Effectively and respectfully collaborate with others in the best interest of those with whom you work and always placing clients' interests first



Compassion, Dignity, and Respect

- Treat others equitably
 - No matter who you engage with
- Support stakeholder decision making by keeping them informed
 - Adjustments made to current policy
 - Enhancements offered
 - Advocacy efforts



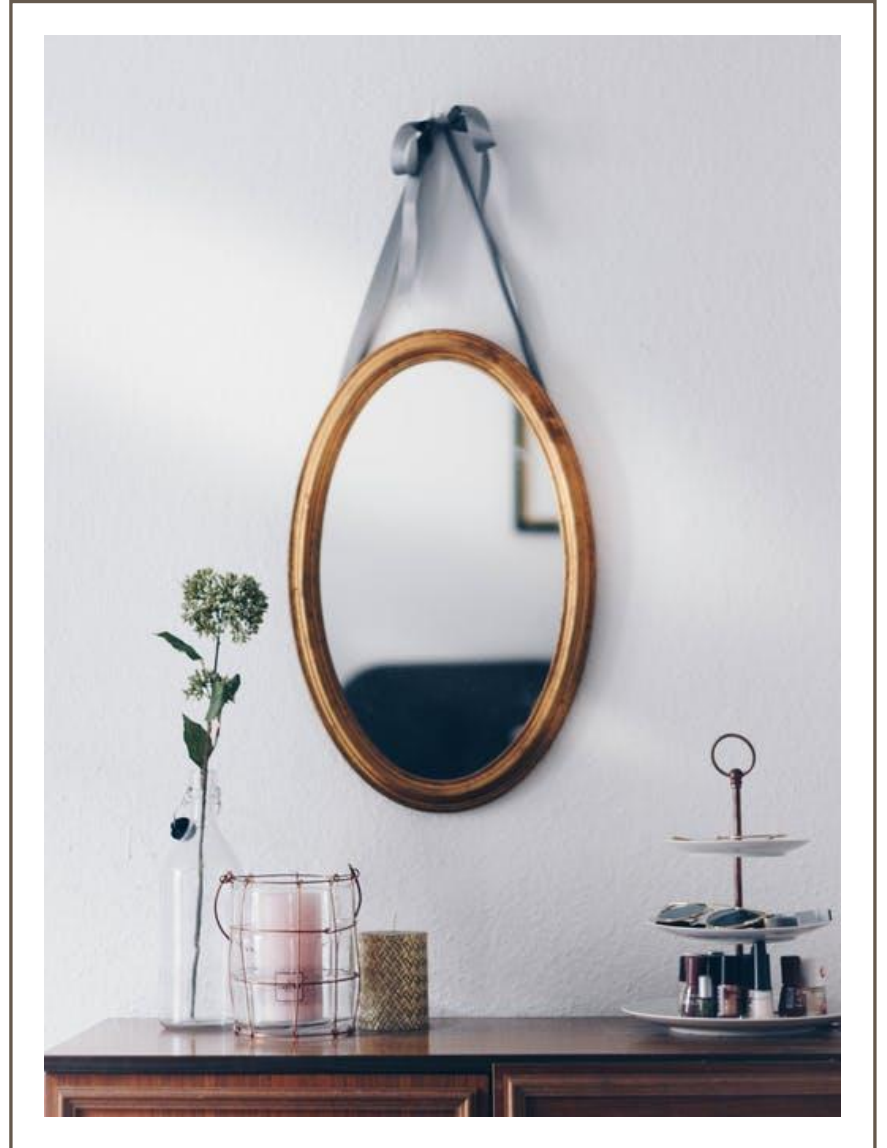
Behave with Integrity

- Following through on obligations
 - Uphold the TRICARE policy
- Be accountable for your work and the work of your supervisees and trainees, and correct errors in a timely manner
 - 2.06 - Accuracy in Service Billing and Reporting
- Being knowledgeable about and upholding the BACB and other regulatory requirements
 - State licensure laws



Important Considerations

- FY2020 Annual DoJ Report of DHHS and Justice
 - To coordinate federal, state, and local law enforcement efforts relating to health care fraud and abuse with respect to health plans (p4)
- DHA's Annual Report on the ACD Program FY2021
 - Revisions to the manual implement improved oversight and auditing systems with the goal of reducing the number of fraud, waste, and abuse activities, and improve the integrity of the ACD (p36)
- OIG Reports
 - 2017
 - 2018



Competence

- Remaining current and increasing your knowledge of best practices and advances in ABA
 - Ensure you are using the most effective and efficient interventions
- Being aware of, work within, and continually evaluate the boundaries of your competence
 - Provide ABA services according to what you know



Ethical Standards and TRICARE

Ethical Decision Making

- 1. Clearly define the issue and evaluate risk of harm.
- 2. Identify all relevant individuals.
- 3 - 7. Do your research. Self reflect. Keep the Code in mind. Consult. Make a plan that prioritizes your client. Document everything along the way.
- 8. Measure everything using the Code.
- 9. Choose the most optimal path.
- 10. Collaborate with others and be accountable.
- 11. Evaluate the progress made.

Democracy in Action

- You elect officials who represent your values, needs, and priorities
- They are responsible for overseeing national programs
- Scale concerns aligned with the ethical decision making process identified in the Code



House Armed Services Committee & Senate Armed Services Committee

General Counsel





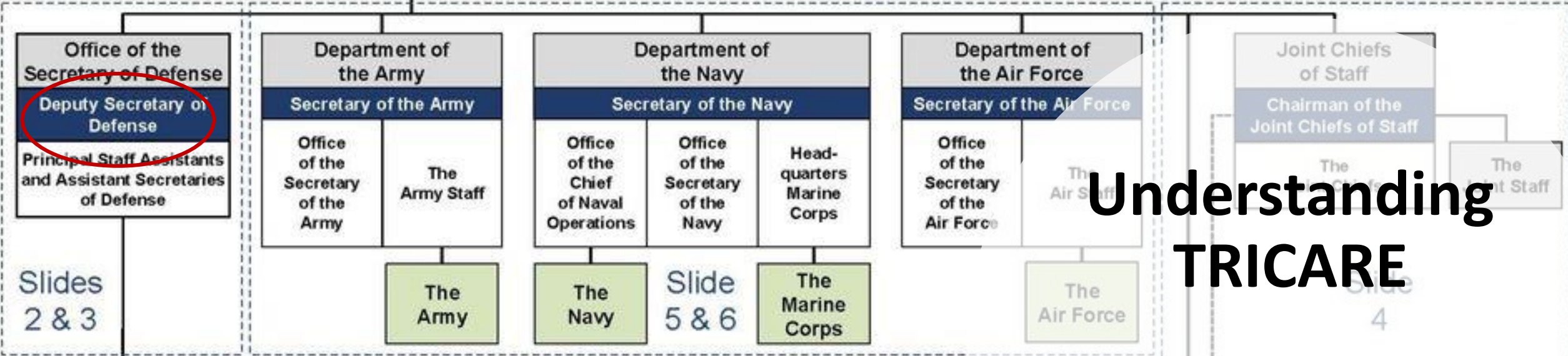
DoD Organizational Structure

Prepared by: Directorate for
Organizational Policy and
Decision Support,
OP&DS/OCMO/OSD

Department of Defense
Secretary of Defense

Office of the Inspector General
of the Department of Defense

The overall organization of DoD is
established in law in 10 U.S.C. §111
and in DoD Policy in DoDD 5100.01.

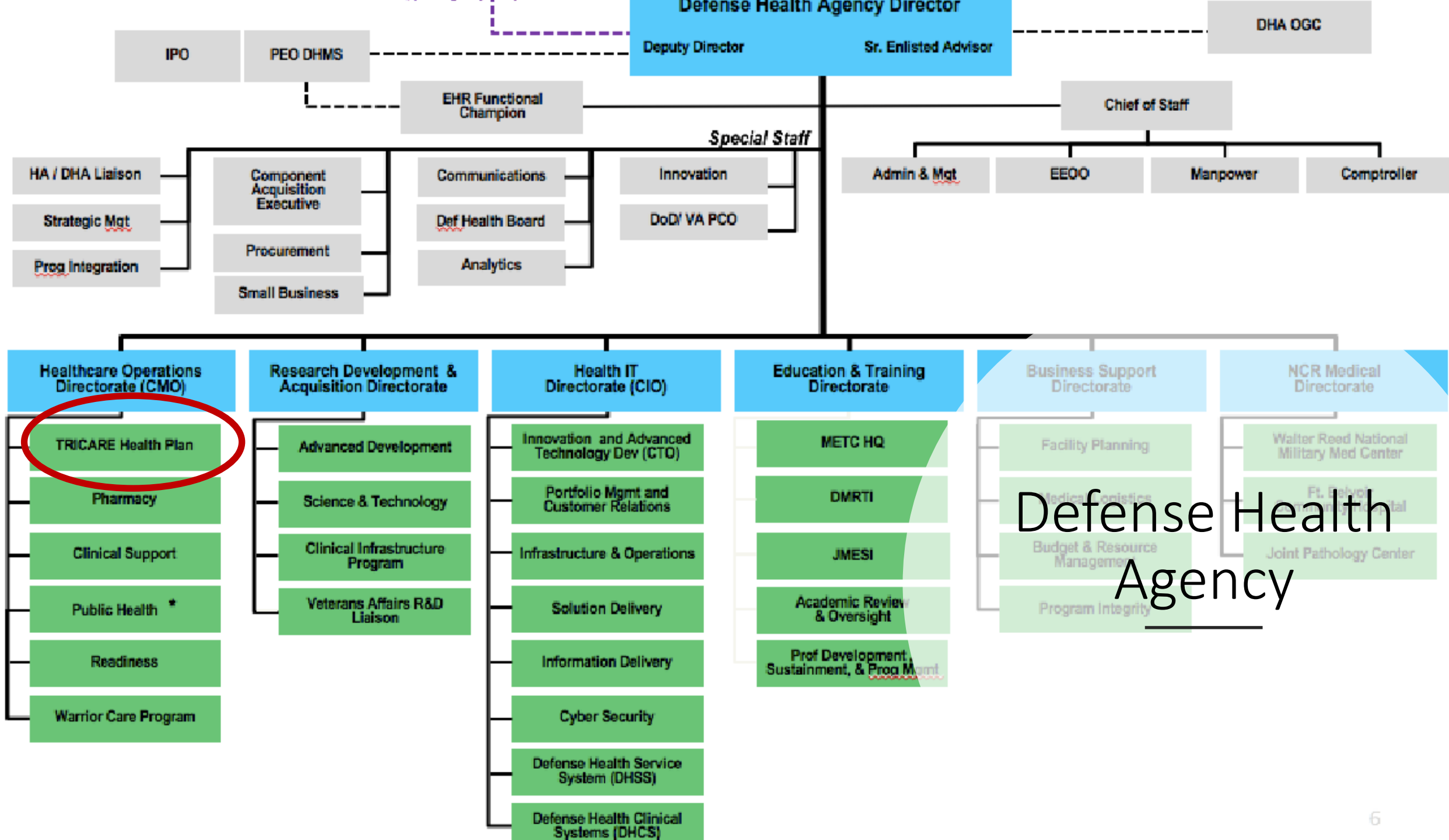


Understanding TRICARE

- Defense Agencies (19)**
- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
 - Defense Commissary Agency
 - Defense Contract Audit Agency
 - Defense Contract Management Agency *
 - Defense Finance and Accounting Service
 - Defense Health Agency ***
 - Defense Information Systems Agency *
 - Defense Intelligence Agency *
 - Defense Legal Services Agency

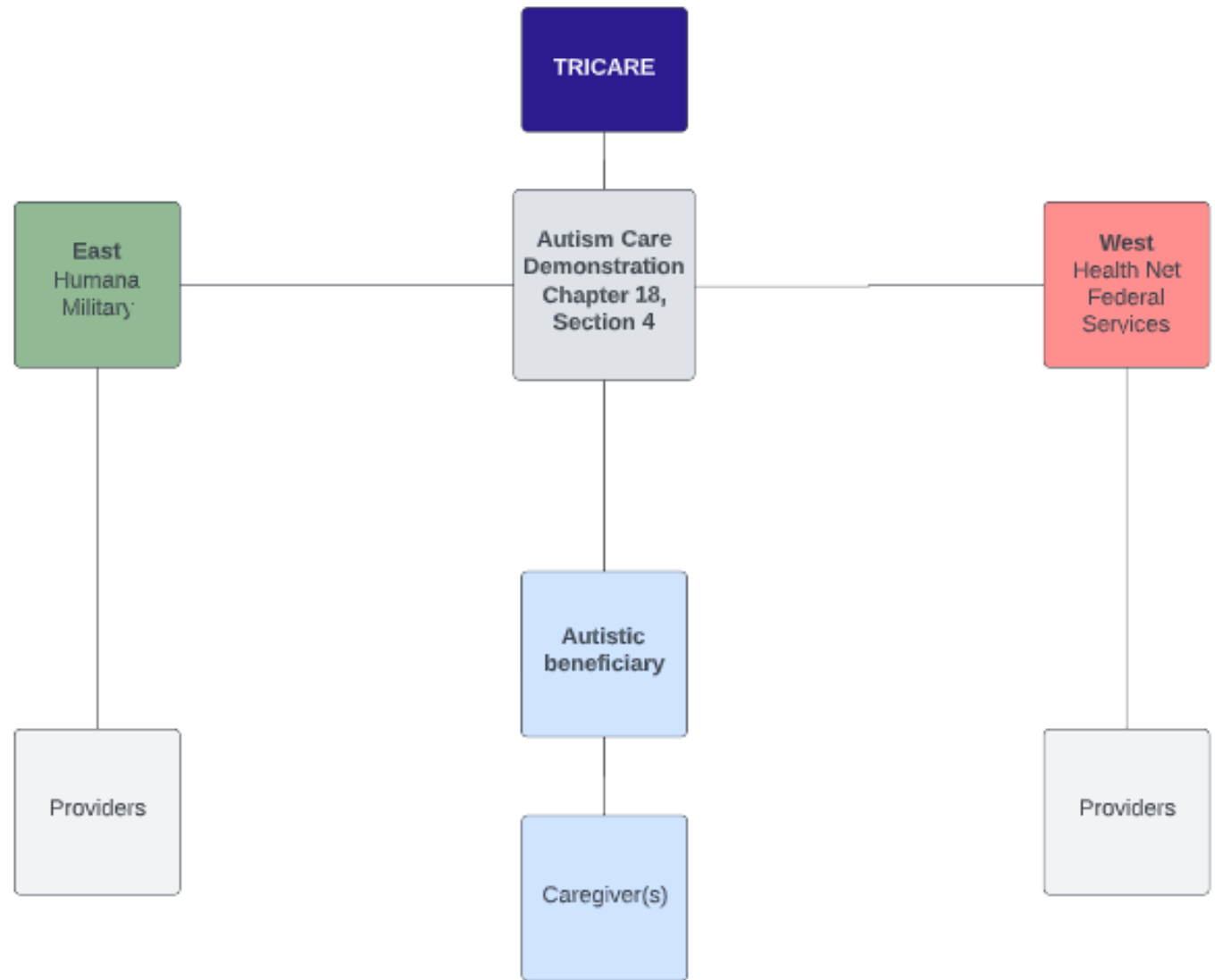
- DoD Field Activities (8)**
- Defense Media Activity
 - Defense Technical Information Center
 - Defense Technology Security Administration
 - DoD Education Activity
 - DoD Human Resources Activity
 - DoD Test Resource Management Center
 - Office of Economic Adjustment
 - Washington Headquarters Services

- Combatant Commands (10)**
- U.S. Africa Command
 - U.S. Central Command
 - U.S. Cyber Command
 - U.S. European Command
 - U.S. Indo-Pacific Command
 - U.S. Northern Command
 - U.S. Southern Command
 - U.S. Special Operations Command
 - U.S. Strategic Command



Defense Health Agency

Benefit implementation



Advocating for Appropriate Services – 3.12

- Cannot target vocational or adaptive skill deficits
- Services excluded from school/community settings
- Code 97155 specific only to developing a new or modifying a current protocol; demonstrating protocol to behavior technician
- PSI-4/SIPA – Caregiver concerns



CASP Advocacy Strategy



Decision Making Process

- Current efforts are unsuccessful
- Root cause analysis
- Areas of impact to effect greatest change

Three Requests and A Recommendation

- Begin analysis by the National Academies of the Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) cited in FY 2022 NDAA
- Implement the CPT codes according to their AMA definitions and generally accepted standards of care
- Return the rates to what was posted May 1st, 2021
- Substitute the Child and Family Quality of Life (Second Edition) scale

Start the NASEM Analysis

- FY 2022 NDAA – December 27th, 2021
- 60 days later
- Evaluation of methodology used to measure progress
- Examine guidelines and industry standards of care
- Measure of the effectiveness of the ACD program



Appropriate CPT Code Implementation

- Lift restrictions on settings
- Allow for all activities associated with code 97155
- Concurrent billing of 97153 & 97155



Return the Rates



- Average of a 3% decrease in code 97153
- Great Resignation
- Pandemic costs
- Competitive market
- Limited workforce



Use the CFLQ-2 Instead

- 26 items
- Open source
- Sensitive to change
- Good psychometric properties
- Ages 2.5 – 19 years
- Measures more than just a single construct
 - Child QoL
 - Family QoL
 - Caregiver QoL
 - Financial QoL
 - Social Network QoL
 - Partner Relationship QoL
 - Coping QoL

metric evaluation of the revised and family quality of life questionnaire (CFQL-2)

Frazier ^{a, b}  , Allison C. Hyland ^{c, d}, Leslie A. Markowitz ^{a, e}, Leslie L. Sp



Mendeley



Share



Cite

10.1016/j.rasd.2019.101474

Get right

How You Can Help



Opportunity to Advocate Right now

- The House and Senate Armed Services Committees will be marking up the National Defense Authorization Act over the next ten days.
- It is important that the members of the congress who service on these committees hear from people who live in their districts.

Do You Live in Any of These Districts or Know Anyone Who Does?

If you live in any of these states, please put your email address in the chat box so we can follow up with you.

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand - New York

Senator Tom Tillis - North Carolina

Senator Mazie Hirono - Hawaii

Senator Josh Hawley - Missouri

Senator Elizabeth Warren - Massachusetts

Senator Tommy Tuberville - Alabama



Congresswoman Jackie Speier - California

Congressman Mike Gallagher - Wisconsin

Congressman Andy Kim - New Jersey

Congresswoman Stephanie Bice - Oklahoma

Congresswoman Chrissy Houlihan - Pennsylvania

Congresswoman Lisa McClain - Michigan

Congresswoman Veronica Escobar - Texas

Congressman Ronny Jackson - Texas

Congresswoman Sara Jacobs - California

Congressman Jerry L. Carl - Alabama

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland - Washington

Congressman Pat Fallon - Texas

Congressman Marc Veasey - Texas



How Do You Contact Them?

**Contact information can be found
at www.congress.gov/contact-us**

Contact Judith Ursitti at jursitti@casproviders.org

Sample call scripts and emails will be shared via email and on our website after the webinar.

What Do I Say?

Whether you are calling, emailing, or both, here is what you need to do:

Step 1:

Identify yourself, including where you live. (Bonus if you are a constituent!) Tell them that access to meaningful autism treatment for Tricare families matters to you.

Step 2:

Make Three Requests and Recommendation (See next slide.)

Step 3:

Asking everyone you know to do the same!

Three Requests and A Recommendation

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Resources Will be Provided After This Webinar on our Website

- One pager
- Sample language you can use for emails and phone calls
- Recording of the webinar
- CASP Members – Join our TRICARE SIG

Connect with
Social Media



Sign up for our
newsletter



Questions & Answers

Thank you!