



General Practitioner Fee Schedule

Dear Patients,

From 1st July 2023, the GPs will have a new fee schedule. They would like to explain these changes to you so that you are clear on how GP appointments are billed at SWHC. Reasons for these changes include:

- Their thought that patients were paying too much out of pocket for short consults. You should be out of pocket less for three minutes with a GP compared to 19 minutes.
- The GPs don't practice six-minute medicine. They aim to provide a very high level of health care that is holistic and personalised and empowers you to maximise your health and well-being. This takes time and requires higher fees than fast medicine does. They do not want to overcharge people who occasionally only require 6-12 minutes of their time, but don't want to be disadvantaged for seeing less patients per hour. They have created time appropriate fees, with more options than the current Medicare classification system offers.

Can I be bulk billed?

The Practice is a private billing clinic. Bulk billing is at the doctor's discretion. Unfortunately, the rebates patients receive from the government for GP appointments have not increased adequately for over 15 years. Because of this, out of pocket health care costs have risen for patients. The GPs will strongly support you in bringing this serious issue up with our federal member of parliament so that your Medicare rebate levels may increase in the future.

Do I require a single or a double appointment?

The GPs want to help you work out whether you may require a single or a double appointment. This will help them to better stay on time which means less waiting time for you.

A standard GP appointment slot is 15 minutes and allows for 1 complex or 2 smaller problems to be discussed and managed. If you feel you require longer than this, please feel free to book a double appointment. Most mental health consultations are better done in a double appointment. Things that always require a double appointment include GP management plans, mental health plans and procedures.

All paperwork/referrals/scripts will require an appointment slot. Speak to the reception staff to work out if a short or standard appointment is required.

New price list

It would be impossible to list every possible Medicare item and combination for you, but the following table outlines fees for the most commonly used items. Sometimes the GPs will be able to claim a second item for you, reducing your out-of-pocket costs.

Consultation type	Time/ Minutes	Total cost*	Item number	Medicare rebate	Out of pocket cost
Standard time-based consults					
Level A	<5	\$38	3	\$18.95	\$19.05
Level B - standard	5 to <12	\$79	23	\$41.40	\$37.60
Level B - long	12 to <20	\$94	23	\$41.40	\$52.60
Level C - standard	20 to <30	\$134	36	\$80.10	\$53.90
Level C - long	30 to <40	\$145	36	\$80.10	\$64.90
Level D - standard	40 to <50	\$188	44	\$118.00	\$70.00
Level D - long	50 to <60	\$203	44	\$118.00	\$85.00
Phone consult	<6	\$38	91890	\$18.95	\$19.05
Phone consult	6 to <12	\$79	91891	\$41.40	\$37.60
Mental health items					
Mental health plan review	Usually 15-25	\$106	2712	\$78.95	\$27.05
Mental health consult - standard	20 to <30	\$134	2713	\$78.95	\$55.05
Mental health consult - long	30 to <40	\$145	2713	\$78.95	\$66.05
Mental health consult - extended	40 to <50	\$188	2713	\$78.95	\$109.05
Mental health plan - standard	20 to <30	\$134	2715	\$100.80	\$33.20
Mental health plan - long	30 to <40	\$145	2715	\$100.80	\$44.20
Mental health plan - extended	40+	\$193	2717	\$147.65	\$45.35
Contraception related items					
Implanon insertion	Single appt	\$94	14206	\$33.35	\$60.65
Implanon removal	Double appt	\$134	30062	\$56.85	\$77.15
IUD insertion	Double appt	\$94	23	\$41.40	\$142.55
		\$165	35503	\$75.05	
IUD removal	Single appt	\$94	23	\$41.40	\$52.60
Pregnancy related items					
Antenatal - standard	5 to <12	\$79	16500	\$44.15	\$34.85
Antenatal - long	12 to <20	\$94	16500	\$44.15	\$49.85
Antenatal - extended	> 20	\$134	16500	\$44.15	\$89.85
Pregnancy management appt	Billed once in pregnancy when the GP is primary carer	Bulk billed	16591	\$133.45	\$0
Postnatal visit - standard	20 to <30	\$134	16407	\$67.15	\$66.85
Postnatal visit - long	30 to <40	\$145	16407	\$67.15	\$77.85
Termination of pregnancy	Double appt	\$250	Usually 23	\$41.40	\$124.30
			4001	\$84.30	
Follow up of termination	Single appt	Bulk billed	23	\$41.40	\$0
Chronic disease related items					
GP Management Plan	Double appt	Bulk billed	721	\$158.80	\$0
			+/- 723	+/- \$125.85	
Review GP Management Plan	Double appt	Bulk billed	732	\$79.30	\$0
Health assessments	Nurse then GP	Bulk billed	Time dependent		\$0
Skin procedures					
Skin biopsies/lesion removal	Double appt	Dependent on size, location and diagnosis			
Miscellaneous					
Failure to attend appt without at least 4 hours' notice		\$94		\$0	\$0
Treatment room (nurse) fee		\$20		\$0	\$0
Wound dressing consumables		\$30		\$0	\$0
Iron infusion consumables		\$10		\$0	\$0

*Please note - concession card holders are discounted \$10 from fees.