

GP Mental Health Treatment – New Medicare items as of 1 November 2011



| MBS item | fee | GP training | Time requirement | Service type | Frequency |
|----------|----------|-------------|------------------|--|---|
| 2700 | \$69.00 | no | at least 20 mins | Preparation of a GP Mental Health Treatment Plan * | Every 12 months [†] but do not prepare a new plan unless clinically required; provide ongoing management through reviews and MH consultations. |
| 2701 | \$101.55 | no | at least 40 mins | | |
| 2715 | \$87.60 | yes ★ | at least 20 mins | | |
| 2717 | \$129.00 | yes ★ | at least 40 mins | | |
| 2712 | \$69.00 | - | - | Review of GP Mental Health Treatment Plan or Psychiatrist Assessment & Management Plan * | Initial review 1-6 months from plan. Further review 3 months after first if required † |
| 2713 | \$69.00 | - | at least 20 mins | GP consultation in relation to a mental disorder ** | no restriction |
| 729 | \$66.35 | - | - | Contribution to a Care Plan prepared by another provider | see MBS explanatory notes for CDM items |
| 731 | \$66.35 | - | - | Contribution to the care plan of resident of aged care facility | see MBS explanatory notes for CDM items |

★ Additional GP mental health skills training is required to use these items. It is strongly recommended that GPs providing mental health treatment have appropriate training.

* Service not associated with a service to which item 2713 or 735 to 758 applies.

** Service not associated with a service to which item 2700, 2701, 2715, 2717 or 2712 applies.

† A rebate will not be paid within twelve months of a previous claim for item 2700, 2701, 2715 or 2717 except where there has been a significant change in the patient's clinical condition or care circumstances that requires the preparation of a new GP Mental Health Treatment Plan.

‡ A rebate will not be paid within three months following a claim for item 2712, except where there has been a significant change in the patient's clinical condition or care circumstances that requires the preparation of more than 2 reviews in one calendar year.

Patients with a mental disorder benefit from a structured approach to the management of their treatment needs. 'Mental disorders' significantly interfere with an individual's cognitive, emotional or social abilities. Best practice primary health treatment of patients with mental disorders, including patients with both chronic or non-chronic disorders, comprises: assessment and planning; provision and/or referral for appropriate treatment and services; review and ongoing management as required. Available to eligible patients in the community. Dementia, delirium, tobacco use disorder and mental retardation are not included for the purposes of the GP Mental Health Treatment items.

Item 2700, 2701, 2715 or 2717 **GP Mental Health Treatment Plan (GPMHTP)** involves: an assessment (agreement, history, examination, risks, diagnosis, measurement tool) and preparation of a plan (discuss the assessment and referral options, agree goals, provide psycho-education, plan prevention, make support arrangements). Document the assessment, plan & a review date.

Item 2712 **Review** involves: recording patient agreement, reviewing progress against goals, modifying plan as required, reinforcing education, developing a relapse prevention strategy and re-administration of the measurement tool (unless clinically inappropriate).

Item 2713 **Attendance** on a patient in relation to a mental disorder involves: taking relevant history, identifying presenting problem(s), providing treatment and advice, providing referral for other services or treatments (ie. non-Medicare / non-ATAPs) and documenting the outcomes of the consultation.

Treatment options include psychiatrist, psychologist, trained GP or allied mental health professional; pharmacological and/or community services.

Patients with a GPMHTP can be referred for psychological therapy or focussed psychological strategy, in 2 or more courses of treatment (maximum of six in any one referral), for up to a total of ten Medicare rebateable individual allied mental health services per calendar year. Up to ten group sessions can additionally be claimed.

Before making a Medicare claim read the item descriptors & paragraph A46 of explanatory notes for this category: www.mbsonline.gov.au

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Information source: Medicare Benefits Schedule at www.mbsonline.gov.au

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