

BETTER ACCESS SUBSEQUENT TREATMENT SERVICES- 10 EXTRA COVID SESSIONS

As the name suggests, this is in addition to the current Better Access program, it is a continuation of this program to support those most impacted by COVID-19. There are phone, telehealth or face to face (where safe) option. Rebate amounts are the same as the current Better Access items.

These items were previously only for people whose movements were restricted by state or territory public health order and are now available each calendar year to all eligible clients under the existing Better Access Scheme impacted by COVID.

If a client was already referred under the state or public health order items between 7 August and 9 October 2020 you do not need a new referral and can continue to access any remaining sessions under that referral up to a maximum of 10 additional mental health sessions.

NOTE - clients will only be eligible to a **maximum of 20 sessions** per calendar year **regardless of location**.

Who is eligible?

- To be eligible a client needs to have an approved treatment plan (either a Mental Health Treatment Plan, shared care plan, psychiatrist assessment and management plan or approved written record)
- Clients need to have used 10 better access initial treatment services in that calendar year before they seek a referral from additional sessions
- After the last session (10th session), the reviewing practitioner (GP, psychiatrist or paediatrician) needs to have a session with the client to access the effectiveness of treatment and the appropriateness of further treatment
- If the reviewing practitioner determines that is it clinically appropriate for the client to access subsequent treatment services, they must write a referral to the treating practitioner

These items will be available until 30 June 2022 in person, until 31 March 2021 performed by telehealth or phone. The Department of Health has indicated that telehealth is likely to continue and AAPi will continue to work towards both telehealth and the 20 sessions continuing beyond this point.

Item Numbers

Registered Psychologist:

Additional focused psychological strategies (20 to 50 minutes)
client rebate: \$62

93350 (In person)
93351 (Video Telehealth)
93352 (Telephone Call)

Registered Psychologist:

Additional focused psychological strategies (at least 50 minutes)
client rebate \$87.45

93353 (In person)
93354 (Video Telehealth)
93355 (Telephone Call)

Clinical Psychologist:

Additional psychological therapy services (30-50 minutes)
client rebate \$87.45

93330 (In person)
93331 (Video Telehealth)
93332 (Telephone call)

Clinical Psychologist:

Additional psychological therapy services (50+ minutes)
client rebate \$128.40

93333 (In person)
93334 (Video Telehealth)
93335 (Telephone call)

