



**my** **medicare**

# Strengthening Medicare

The Australian Government is investing \$6.1 billion over five years from 2022-23 to strengthen Medicare and ensure Australians get the primary health care they need.



The investments made so far include:

## **\$3.5 billion**

To triple the bulk billing incentive to support free GP consultations for 11.6 million children under 16, pensioners and other Commonwealth concession card holders.

## **\$276.3 million**

Towards MyMedicare to enable blended funding models that will better serve the needs of patients and allow health teams to provide more tailored care.

## **\$5.9 million**

For GP level C and D phone consultations with registered patients to support longer telehealth consultations for practices and patients registered in MyMedicare.

**For more information about MyMedicare and resources for patients go to [health.gov.au/mymedicare](https://health.gov.au/mymedicare)**



### What do these changes mean?

MyMedicare will support greater multidisciplinary care and formalise the relationship between patients and their primary care teams.

Evidence shows that seeing the same GP and healthcare team regularly leads to better health outcomes for patients.

MyMedicare is open for voluntary registration to Australians with a Medicare card or a Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) Veteran card.

Some of the benefits for MyMedicare registered practices include:

- Providing longer MBS telehealth consultations with registered patients.
- Eligibility for the triple bulk billing incentive for longer MBS telehealth consultations (Levels C, D and E) for children under 16, pensioners, and concession card holders.

### The tripling of the bulk billing incentive will make healthcare more affordable. It will help people:

- living in rural and remote areas where access is limited, and
- who use more health services, including those with chronic and complex health conditions.

Now, a GP who bulk bills an eligible patient for a standard consultation in a metropolitan area will receive an increased incentive of \$20.65 instead of \$6.85.

In very remote areas, the bulk billing incentive for a standard consultation will increase to \$39.56, instead of \$13.15.