

# COVID-19 Temporary Bulk Billed MBS Telehealth Services

## Fact Sheet

V7 / July 2021

### Mental Health

From 13 March 2020, new temporary MBS items are available for telehealth and phone services, as part of the COVID-19 response.

The list of telehealth services has continued to expand since 13 March. This is the latest factsheet and provides details on all current telehealth items.

See MBS Online for criteria and eligibility.

#### What are the changes?

As part of the Australian Government's response to COVID-19, twenty-four (24) new items have been introduced to ensure continued access to essential health services for all Australians.

As of 30 March 2020, these items have become general in nature and have no relation to diagnosing, treating or suspecting COVID-19.

A list of the new telehealth items is provided later in this fact sheet.

#### Who is eligible?

The new temporary MBS telehealth items are available to providers of telehealth services for a wide range of consultations.

All Medicare eligible Australians can now receive these services.

For allied health services, bulk billing is at the discretion of the provider, so long as informed financial consent is obtained prior to the provision of the service.

#### What does this mean for providers?

The new temporary MBS telehealth items will allow providers to continue to deliver essential health care services to patients within their care.

Providers do not need to be in their regular practice to provide telehealth services.

Providers should use their provider number for their primary location and must provide safe services in accordance with normal professional standards.

The telehealth MBS items can substitute for current face-to-face consultations that available under the MBS when the service/s cannot be provided due to COVID-19 considerations. The MBS telehealth items will have similar requirements to normal timed consultation items.

#### Where can I find more information?

- **COVID-19 National Health Plan resources** for the general public, health professionals and industry are available from the Australian Government Department of Health website [www.health.gov.au/](http://www.health.gov.au/).
- **The full item descriptor(s)** and information on other changes to the MBS can be found on the MBS Online website at [www.mbsonline.gov.au/](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/). You can also subscribe to future MBS updates by visiting MBS Online and clicking 'Subscribe'.
- The Department of Health provides an email advice service for providers seeking **advice on interpretation of the MBS items** and rules, and the Health Insurance Act and associated regulations. If you have a query relating exclusively to interpretation of the Schedule, you should email [askMBS@health.gov.au](mailto:askMBS@health.gov.au).
- Subscribe to 'News for Health Professionals' on the Services Australia website and you will receive regular news highlights.

Source: [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au) (May 2020) – refer to source for full item details including eligibility & restrictions.

\*75% and/or 85%/100% rebate also applies to some of these item numbers

\*\* Refer to MBS(Medicare Benefit Schedule) for full patient eligibility guidelines.

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## GP Mental Health Item Numbers

Item	COVID-19 Video conference items	Fee*
92112	GP without mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, 20 to 40 minutes	\$87.75
92113	GP without mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, more than 40 minutes	\$129.20
92114	GP to review a mental health plan	\$87.75
92115	GP mental health consult, more than 20 minutes	\$87.75
92116	GP with mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, 20 to 40 minutes	\$111.45
92117	GP with mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, more than 40 minutes	\$164.15
91818	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, 30-40 minutes	\$113.50
91819	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, more than 40 minutes	\$162.45
Item	COVID-19 Telephone items	Fee*
92126	GP to review a mental health plan	\$87.80
92127	GP mental health consult, more than 20 minutes	\$87.75
91842	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, 30-40 minutes	\$113.50
91843	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, more than 40 minutes	\$162.45

## Other Medical Practitioner Mental Health Item Numbers

Item	COVID-19 Video conference items	Fee*
92118	OMP without mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, 20 to 40 minutes	\$70.20
92119	OMP without mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, more than 40 minutes	\$103.40
92120	OMP to review a mental health plan	\$70.20
92121	OMP mental health consult, more than 20 minutes	\$70.20
92122	OMP with mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, 20 to 40 minutes	\$89.15
92123	OMP with mental health training, prepare a mental health plan, more than 40 minutes	\$131.35
91820	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, 30-40 minutes	\$90.80
91821	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, more than 40 minutes	\$130.00
Item	COVID-19 Telephone items	Fee*
92132	GP to review a mental health plan	\$70.20
92133	GP mental health consult, more than 20 minutes	\$70.20
91844	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, 30-40 minutes	\$90.80
91845	Focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders, more than 40 minutes	\$130.00

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## Allied Health Focused Psychological Strategies Item Numbers

These items are applicable if the patient is referred under a GP Mental Health Treatment Plan, or by a specialist or consultant physician in psychiatry or paediatrics.

Item	COVID-19 Existing Items <i>current video-conference items</i> <i>Current geographic restrictions apply</i>	Fee*
<b>Clinical Psychologists</b>		
80001	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$103.80
80011	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$152.40
<b>Psychologists</b>		
80101	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$73.55
80111	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$103.80
<b>Occupational Therapists</b>		
80126	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
80136	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50
<b>Social Workers</b>		
80151	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
80161	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50
Item	COVID-19 Telehealth items <i>via video-conference</i> <i>Geographic restrictions do not apply</i>	Fee*
<b>Clinical Psychologists</b>		
91166	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$103.80
91167	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$152.40
<b>Psychologists</b>		
91169	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$73.55
91170	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$103.80
<b>Occupational Therapists</b>		
91172	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
91173	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50
<b>Social Workers</b>		
91175	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
91176	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50

Item	COVID-19 Telephone items – <i>for when videoconferencing is not available</i> <i>Geographic restrictions do not apply</i>	Fee*
<b>Clinical Psychologist</b>		
91181	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$103.80
91182	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$152.40
<b>Psychologists</b>		
91183	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$73.55
91184	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$103.80
<b>Occupational Therapist</b>		
91185	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
91186	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50
<b>Social Worker</b>		
91187	Attendance lasting 30 – 50 minutes	\$64.80
91188	Attendance lasting more than 50 minutes	\$91.50

## Consultant Psychiatrist

Item	COVID-19 Video conference items	Fee*
92455	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (2-9 unrelated patients or a family group of more than 3 patients)	\$52.05
92456	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (family group of 3 patients)	\$69.10
92457	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (family group of 2 patients)	\$102.20
Item	COVID-19 Telephone items	Fee*
92495	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (2-9 unrelated patients or a family group of more than 3 patients)	\$52.05
92496	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (family group of 3 patients)	\$69.10
92497	Group psychotherapy of not less than 1 hour (family group of 2 patients)	\$102.20

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