

# ProHealthCare

## INCREASE IN DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT FEES

At **Pro Health Care**, we strive to offer our patients the **highest quality in health care**.

There are many costs involved in running a quality medical practice, including rent, staff wages and medical equipment to name just a few.

We all know that the cost of living has increased in recent years, and the increase in costs to run a private medical practices are no different.

Despite the increase in costs, the Government has not increased the Medicare rebate enough to support your ongoing healthcare.

**In reality, your Medicare rebates have barely increased in the last 10 years.**

Your Medicare rebate now only covers less than half the actual cost incurred by medical practices to provide you with high quality care.

To be able to offer quality care we therefore have to charge gap fees on top of your Medicare rebate.

Until the Government adequately funds your ongoing healthcare, practices have no option but to increase gap fees each year, in line with increasing costs.

We feel strongly that the Government is failing to prioritise your access to quality healthcare in Australia, this leaves you increasingly out of pocket when you see your GP.

The RACGP (Royal College for GP's) and AMA (Australian Medical Association) are actively lobbying the government on your behalf to ask them to increase your Medicare rebates.

But this only helps so much.

It is YOUR Medicare rebate that has been frozen. It is YOU that is increasingly out of pocket.

If you agree that your Medicare rebates need to be increased to adequately subsidise the cost of your healthcare then we would encourage you to **speak to your local Federal MP** to raise your concerns that Medicare Rebates have not kept up with inflation. You can find your local MP via this website: <https://electorate.aec.gov.au/>

**Great thought has been put into increasing our fees, which we have not done lightly.**

**We look forward to continuing to provide you with quality healthcare.**

*The Pro Health Care Norwood Team*

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## **Doctors' fees apply to both face-to-face and telephone consultations.**

Total Fees and your Medicare rebate will vary according to the type, length and complexity of the consultation.

## **Children age 0-4**

Bulk billing will continue to be available to children age 0-4 years of age on weekdays only.

## **Health Care Card Holders**

Patients who hold a valid Concession Card will be given a discount on the fee payable on weekday appointments. Full fees continue to be payable on weekends.

## **All weekend appointments are charged at the full private fee.**

No Bulk Billing available at weekends due to the increased staffing costs to offer out of hours care to our patients.

## **Health Assessments/ GPMP's**

At this time there continues to be no out of pocket cost for patients having Health Assessments and Chronic Disease Management Plans.

## **Mental Health Care Plans (MHCP)**

MHCP's will incur a time based gap in line with appointment fees listed below.

## **Procedures:**

Any procedure such as skin excisions, Mirena/IUD insertions, Implanon insertion/removal, Iron Infusions, and dressing changes will incur an additional out of pocket fee to cover consumables and nurse time. Please speak to our doctors or receptionists to provide an accurate estimate of costs.

## **Workers Compensation**

Patients must provide a Claim Number each time they present for a consultation or full payment must be made by the claimant on the day of the appointment.

## **No Medicare**

Full payment is required on the day.