Budget October 2022-23

This information is accurate as of 25 October 2022.

Restoring Regional Mental Telehealth Services – restoring loading to regional psychiatry telehealth services

This measure will restore a 50% loading to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) to eligible patients for psychiatric video telehealth consultations.

A 50% loading will be applied to a range of standard psychiatry consultation items for eligible patients. The service must be bulk billed and delivered through video telehealth.

Eligible patients include:

* people living in regional and rural areas at least 15 km by road from a psychiatrist
* people living in residential aged care facilities
* patients of Aboriginal Medical Services
* patients of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

The MBS is led by the Department of Health and Aged Care, and administered by Services Australia. Services Australia has been allocated $47,000 in 2022-23 and $315,000 over 4 years to support implementation of this measure.

This measure is subject to the passage of legislation.

**Who does this measure affect?**

This will affect eligible patients accessing psychiatric video telehealth consultations and health professionals who provide these services.

When will this start and finish?

This will start on 1 November 2022 and will be ongoing.