



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.