



Budget 2023-24

This information is accurate as of 9 May 2023.

COVID-19 Response

This measure will establish up to 150 new temporary respiratory clinics to be activated if needed in a health emergency. The program will be known as the General Practice-Led Respiratory Clinic (GPRC) Panel. In a declared health emergency, these clinics could be set up at short notice to help reduce extraordinary strain on the health system.

Services Australia will:

- introduce a paid incentive for activated clinics through the existing Practice Incentive Program
- introduce a dedicated Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) item number for claiming purposes
- create a specialty code for eligible health professionals of activated practices to claim the new MBS item.

This measure is led by the Department of Health and Aged Care. Services Australia has been allocated \$23.2 million to fund this measure through to the 2026-27 financial year.

This measure is not subject to legislation passing.

Who this measure affects

This affects a small number of clinics selected by the Department of Health and Aged Care through an open approach to market and their health professionals during a declared health emergency.

When this starts and finishes

This measure came into effect on 1 March 2023 but would only be activated in a declared health emergency.