

# Changes to COVID-19 Temporary MBS Telehealth Services: July 2021

## New, continuing and discontinued telephone items for GPs and Other Medical Practitioners

Commencing 13 March 2020 and extending until 31 December 2021, the Australian Government has made a number of temporary MBS telehealth (video and telephone) items available to help reduce the risk of community transmission of COVID-19 and provide protection for patients and health care providers.

From 1 July 2021, **General Practitioner (GP) and Other Medical Practitioner telephone items** will be streamlined. This change aligns with how the items are being used by providers and is also based on expert advice about the use of telephone-based services.

**No changes to face-to-face items or telehealth items delivered via videoconference have been made.**

This fact sheet highlights information about **new, continuing and discontinued telephone items** from 1 July 2021, which may be relevant to GPs and Other Medical Practitioners providing services via telephone to patients experiencing an eating disorder.

### New telephone items from 1 July 2021

New telephone items\* introduced on 1 July 2021 for **GPs** include:

- Item 91890 – A short consultation item (less than six minutes) for straightforward care, such as repeat prescriptions and diagnostic referrals
- Item 91891 – A longer telephone consultation item (six minutes and over) for more complex attendances

\* replacing items 91795, 91809, 91810 and 91811.

New telephone items\* introduced on 1 July 2021 for **Other Medical Practitioners** include:

- Item 91892 – A short consultation item (less than six minutes) for straightforward care, such as repeat prescriptions and diagnostic referrals
- Item 91893 – A longer telephone consultation item (six minutes and over) for more complex attendances.

\* replacing items 91797, 91812, 91813, 91814, 91799, 91815, 91816 and 91817.

**Note:** the new telephone items for GPs and Other Medical Practitioners do not trigger patient access to Medicare subsidised follow-up services. Patients may only be referred to Medicare subsidised follow-up services when an appropriate planning and/or management service has been provided, such as for the development of a GP Management Plan.

## Continuing telephone items from 1 July 2021

Longer telephone items for mental health treatment and review will continue to be available until 31 December 2021, to ensure timely access to essential mental health services. These continuing items are outlined below.

Continuing telephone items from 1 July 2021 for **GPs** include:

### *Eating disorder treatment and management plan items*

- Item 92176 – Review of an eating disorder treatment and management plan
- Item 92194 – Eating disorder psychological treatment (EDPT) service, lasting at least 30 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92196 – EDPT service, at least 40 minutes

### *Mental health service items*

- Item 91842 – Focussed Psychological Strategies (FPS) treatment, lasting at least 30 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 91843 – FPS treatment, at least 40 minutes
- Item 92126 – Review of a GP mental health treatment plan or Psychiatrist Assessment and Management Plan
- Item 92127 – Mental health treatment consultation, at least 20 minutes

Continuing telephone items from 1 July 2021 for **Other Medical Practitioners** include:

### *Eating disorder treatment and management plan items*

- Item 92177 – Review of an eating disorder treatment and management plan
- Item 92198 – Eating disorders psychological treatment (EDPT) service, lasting at least 30 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92200 – EDPT service, at least 40 minutes

### *Mental health service items*

- 91844 – Focussed Psychological Strategies (FPS) treatment, lasting at least 30 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- 91845 – FPS treatment, at least 40 minutes
- 92132 – Review of a GP mental health treatment plan or Psychiatrist Assessment and Management Plan
- 92133 – Medical Practitioner mental health treatment consultation, at least 20 minutes



## Discontinued telephone items from 1 July 2021

A number of telephone items have been discontinued from 1 July 2021. Note: these services continue to be available for face-to-face consultation or telehealth via videoconferencing.

Discontinued telephone items from 1 July 2021 for **GPs** include:

### *Eating disorder treatment and management plan items*

- Item 92154 – GP without mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92155 – GP without mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, at least 40 minutes.
- Item 92156 – GP with mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92157 – GP with mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, at least 40 minutes

### *Chronic disease management plans*

- Item 92068 – Preparation of a GP management plan (GPMP)
- Item 92069 – Coordination of Team Care Arrangements (TCAs)
- Item 92070 – Contribution to a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, or to a review of a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, for a patient who is not a care recipient in a residential aged care facility
- Item 92071 – Contribution to a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, or to a review of a multidisciplinary care plan, for a resident in an aged care facility
- Item 92072 – Review of a GPMP or Coordination of a Review of TCAs

### *Mental health services items*

- Item 92124 – GP without mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92125 – GP without mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, at least 40 minutes
- Item 92128 – GP with mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92129 – GP with mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, at least 40 minutes



Discontinued telephone items from 1 July 2021 for **Other Medical Practitioners** include:

***Eating disorder treatment and management plan items***

- Item 92158 – Medical Practitioner without mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92159 – Medical Practitioner without mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, at least 40 minutes
- Item 92160 – Medical Practitioner with mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92161 – Medical Practitioner with mental health skills training, preparation of an eating disorder treatment and management plan, at least 40 minutes

***Chronic disease management plans***

- Item 92099 – Preparation of a GP management plan (GPMP)
- Item 92100 – Coordination of Team Care Arrangements (TCAs)
- Item 92101 – Contribution to a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, or to a review of a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, for a patient who is not a care recipient in a residential aged care facility
- Item 92102 – Contribution to a Multidisciplinary Care Plan, or to a review of a multidisciplinary care plan, for a resident in an aged care facility
- Item 92103 – Review of a GPMP or Coordination of a Review of TCAs

***Mental health services items***

- Item 92130 – Medical Practitioner without mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92131 – Medical Practitioner without mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, at least 40 minutes
- Item 92134 – Medical Practitioner with mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, lasting at least 20 minutes, but less than 40 minutes
- Item 92135 – Medical Practitioner with mental health skills training, preparation of a GP mental health treatment plan, at least 40 minutes



## Further information

The full list of items (face-to-face, telehealth and telephone) available from 1 July 2021 for GPs and Other Medical Practitioners is [available here](#).

Fact sheets for other provider groups are [available here](#).

Please contact [info@nedc.com.au](mailto:info@nedc.com.au) if you have any queries about this information.

The National Eating Disorders Collaboration (NEDC) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health.

Developed July 2021.



To find help or learn more, visit  
[nedc.com.au](https://nedc.com.au)