



## **Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – General Practice Telehealth Services) Amendment Determination 2018**

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I, MICHAEL RYAN, delegate of the Minister for Health, make the following determination.

Dated            25 October 2018

Michael Ryan  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
MBS Policy and Specialist Services Branch  
Medical Benefits Division  
Department of Health

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## Contents

1.	Name of Determination	3
2.	Commencement	3
3.	Authority	3
4.	Schedules	3
5.	Repeal	3
	Schedule 1 – Amendments to instruments made under section 3C of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i>	4

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**1. Name of Determination**

This Determination is the *Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – General Practice Telehealth Services) Amendment Determination 2018*.

**2. Commencement**

- (1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
1. The whole of this instrument	1 November 2018	

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this instrument. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this instrument.

**3. Authority**

This Determination is made under subsection 3C(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

**4. Schedules**

Each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

**5. Repeal**

This Determination is repealed from 1 July 2020.

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## Schedule 1 – Amendments to instruments made under section 3C of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*

### *Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services - General Practitioner Telehealth Services) Determination 2018*

#### 1 Subsection 4(1) (below the definition of Act)

Insert:

*drought affected eligible area* means an area within New South Wales, Queensland or Victoria that is a Modified Monash 3 area, Modified Monash 4 area, Modified Monash 5 area, Modified Monash 6 area or Modified Monash 7 area.

#### 2 Section 6 (below the heading)

Repeal and substitute:

Items 2121, 2150, 2196, 2729 and 2731 do not apply if the patient or the general practitioner travels to a place to satisfy the requirement in paragraph (d) of the item.

#### 3 Section 7 (below the heading)

Repeal and substitute:

Clause 2.22.7 of the general medical services table shall have effect as if items 2729 and 2731 were also specified in this clause.

#### 4 Schedule 1 (items 2729 and 2731)

Repeal and substitute:

<b>Group A20—Mental health care</b>		
<b>Subgroup 2—Focussed psychological strategies</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
2729	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a general practitioner, for the purpose of providing focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders by a general practitioner registered with the Chief Executive Medicare as meeting the credentialing requirements for provision of this service, and lasting at least 30 minutes, but less than 40 minutes if: (a) the attendance is by video conference; and (b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and (c) the patient is located within a telehealth eligible area; and (d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the general practitioner.	92.75
2731	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a general practitioner, for the purpose of providing focussed psychological strategies for assessed mental disorders by a general practitioner registered with the Chief Executive Medicare as meeting the credentialing requirements for provision of this service, and lasting at least 40 minutes if: (a) the attendance is by video conference; and	132.75

<b>Group A20—Mental health care</b>		
<b>Subgroup 2—Focussed psychological strategies</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
	(b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and (c) the patient is located within a telehealth eligible area; and (d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the general practitioner.	
<b>Group A30—Medical Practitioner video conferencing consultation</b>		
<b>Subgroup 3—Mental health and well-being video conferencing consultation</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
2121	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a general practitioner, lasting less than 20 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if:  (a) the attendance is by video conference; and (b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and (c) the patient and the general practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and (d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the general practitioner; and (e) the patient has an existing relationship with the general practitioner.	44.20
2150	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a general practitioner, lasting at least 20 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if:  (a) the attendance is by video conference; and (b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and (c) the patient and the general practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and (d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the general practitioner; and (e) the patient has an existing relationship with the general practitioner.	85.60
2196	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a general practitioner, lasting at least 40 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if:  (a) the attendance is by video conference; and (b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and (c) the patient and the general practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and (d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the general practitioner; and (e) the patient has an existing relationship with the general practitioner.	126.05

***Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – Other Medical Practitioner) Determination 2018***

**5 Subsection 4(1) (below the definition of ASGS)**

Insert:

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*drought affected eligible area* means an area within New South Wales, Queensland or Victoria that is a Modified Monash 3 area, Modified Monash 4 area, Modified Monash 5 area, Modified Monash 6 area or Modified Monash 7 area.

## 6 Division 1.12 of Schedule 1 (subclause 1.12.3(1), paragraph a)

Repeal and substitute:

- (a) items 812 to 892 in Division 1.12 were also specified in subclause 2.20.1(1); and

## 7 Division 1.12 of Schedule 1 (clause 1.12.4, after paragraph b)

Insert:

- (2) Items 894, 896 and 898 do not apply if the patient or the medical practitioner travels to a place to satisfy the requirement in paragraph (d) of the item.

## 8 Division 1.12 of Schedule 1 (after item 892)

Insert:

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894	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a medical practitioner, lasting more than 5 minutes but not more than 25 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the attendance is by video conference; and</li><li>(b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and</li><li>(c) the patient and the medical practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and</li><li>(d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the medical practitioner; and</li><li>(e) the patient has an existing relationship with the medical practitioner.</li></ul>	35.40
896	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a medical practitioner, lasting more than 25 minutes but not more than 45 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the attendance is by video conference; and</li><li>(b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and</li><li>(c) the patient and the medical practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and</li><li>(d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the medical practitioner; and</li><li>(e) the patient has an existing relationship with the medical practitioner.</li></ul>	68.50
898	Professional attendance at consulting rooms by a medical practitioner, lasting more than 45 minutes, for providing mental health services to a patient with mental health issues, if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the attendance is by video conference; and</li><li>(b) the patient is not an admitted patient; and</li><li>(c) the patient and the medical practitioner are located within a drought affected eligible area; and</li><li>(d) the patient is, at the time of the attendance, at least 15 kilometres by road from the medical practitioner; and</li></ul>	100.80

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(e) the patient has an existing relationship with the medical practitioner.

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