

Changes to Fee Policy - 1 January 2020

QGSC regrettably announces changes to its billing and fee policy. These changes will come into effect on Wednesday 1 January 2020. They are necessary due to:

1. the Medicare rebate freeze from 2012 – 2017, and the sub-CPI/AWE increases in 2018 and 2019
2. the removal of Queanbeyan from the rural and regional classification for bulk billing incentives by the Commonwealth Government effective 1 January 2020
3. the significant increases in costs in the operation of a medical clinic.

The changes being implemented are:

- **New patients** who hold an accepted Commonwealth Concession card will be charged a reduced fee (\$20 concession) on the practice fee. See below for accepted concession cards.
- **Existing patients** who, in the future, receive an accepted Commonwealth Concession card will be charged a reduced fee (\$20 concession).
- **Procedures, tests and other similar services** will not be bulk billed to any patients. Fee estimates will be provided prior to these being undertaken.
- **Bulk billing** will not be available to any patients in the evening (Mon – Fri, 6 – 8pm), weekends or public holidays. Children under 16 and accepted Commonwealth Concession cards will receive a \$20 concession on the practice fee.
- **Most consultation type appointments** will have the same out of pocket expense as a “standard” appointment regardless of the length of appointment.
- **Services provided by nursing staff** will incur a fee.

Please note the following exceptions:

Bulk billing will continue for the following patients:

- residing in aged care facilities.
- who are children under 16 years of age and existing accepted Concession Card holders during the normal working day of Mon – Fri, 8am – 6pm.
- holding a Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) Gold card or White card for accepted conditions
- who qualify for a GP Management Plan, Team Care Arrangement and Health Assessments
- receiving flu vaccination programs.

Please see common fees overleaf detailing out of pocket expenses.

We can usually process your claim immediately for your rebate to be refunded by Medicare within 48 hours.

Please note, the fees and out of pocket estimates apply only to patients who have a valid Medicare card. Patients without a Medicare card are asked to see reception staff for information on costs and expenses.

Patients must present their Concession Card at all consultations to receive the concession fee.

Accepted Commonwealth Concession Cards



Accepted DVA Cards



Fee Schedule - 1 January 2020

| Consultation services | Practice Fee | Patient out of pocket | Concession Card out of pocket |
|--|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Consultations (Mon – Fri, 8am – 8pm): | | | |
| Short consultation | \$42.50 | \$25 | \$10 |
| Standard consultation | \$86.00 | \$47.80 | \$27.80 |
| Long consultation | \$121.80 | | |
| Prolonged consultation | \$156.70 | | |
| GP mental health care plan (Standard) | \$120.70 | | |
| GP mental health care plan (Long) | \$155.10 | | |
| *GP mental health care plan (Standard) | \$140.30 | | |
| *GP mental health care plan (Long) | \$184.10 | | |
| Review of a GP mental health care plan | \$120.70 | | |
| Mental Health disorder consultation | \$120.70 | | |
| Health assessments and chronic condition plans | | | |
| GP Management Plan | Direct billed to Medicare/DVA | | |
| GP Team Care Arrangement | | | |
| GPMP & TCA review | | | |
| Health Assessments | | | |
| Antenatal consultations | | | |
| Antenatal – general consultation | \$105.75 | \$65 | \$45 |
| Antenatal – 28 week review by planned delivering GP | \$386.90 | | |
| Antenatal – 28 week review by non-delivering GP | \$188.25 | | |
| Specialised services | | | |
| Dr Bombell lactation & breast feeding consultations | Fees will vary depending on the required treatment or procedure. Please contact reception staff for fee estimate. | | |
| Consultations (Saturday after 12.00 noon/Sunday/Public Holidays) | | | |
| Standard consultation | \$106 | \$56.20 | \$36.20 |
| Long consultation | \$141.50 | | |
| Prolonged consultation | \$175.85 | | |
| Tests and procedures (this is additional to any GP review/consultation/intervention) | | | |
| Spirometry and report | \$47.80 | \$30 | \$10 |
| ABI indices and analysis | \$85.05 | | |
| ECG trace and report | \$57 | | |
| Venesection | \$93 | | |
| 24 hour ambulatory blood pressure | \$60 | \$60 | \$40 |
| Dressings: dependant on size/complexity | \$10 - \$20 | \$10-\$20 | \$5-\$10 |
| Plaster casts : dependant on size/complexity | \$20 - \$40 | \$20 - \$40 | \$10 - \$20 |
| IV hydration (Intravenous) | \$40 | \$40 | \$20 |
| Iron infusion | \$75 | \$75 | \$50 |
| Ear irrigation / wax removal | \$20 | \$20 | \$10 |
| Prescriptions/referrals issued without an appointment | \$20 | \$20 | \$10 |
| Excisions, biopsies, IUD/implanon insertion, suturing, plasters | | | |
| <p>Fees will vary significantly depending upon many factors including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of procedure • Location of wound, size and closure type (suture or skin graft/flap) • Complexity of lesion – malignant, non-malignant, benign. <p>All patients requiring a procedure will be provided with a fee estimate prior to booking the procedure. Please note that fees for most procedures are significantly less than the AMA recommended fee.</p> | | | |

*These items are used by GPs who have undertaken additional mental health training