

Fees at Vermont Health Care

At Vermont Health Care we do not compromise on the quality of the care we provide. We are careful to recruit only the best medical staff. We are continuously investing in technology. The practice is fully accredited by Australian General Practice Accreditation Ltd.

None of this comes without cost, and our fees need to reflect the high costs associated with providing high quality care in the Australian community. An increase to the government rebate came into effect on 1st July 2022. We have adjusted our fees accordingly. The following fee schedule is effective from the 1st January 2023.

We are a mixed billing practice.

Bulk Billing is available to Children under 16 years, Pensioners and Concession Card holders during the week 8am to 6pm and on Saturday mornings 8:30am to 1pm. At all other times, this patient category attracts concession rates (i.e. after 6pm on weekdays, Saturday afternoons 1pm to 5pm, all day Sundays and Public Holidays you will be charged concession rates)

Private billing rates apply at all times to those who don't qualify for bulk billing. Full time students under 25 years as well as Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders qualify for a **Concession rate** (usually \$20 less than the private billing rate)

We ask that you pay the whole practice fee on the day of service. Medicare will then deposit into your account the rebate (usually within 24 hours) leaving you with an out-of-pocket cost which should be no more than \$40 for a regular appointment, and no more than \$60 for long appointments.

This billing policy is for both face-to-face consultations at the surgery and for telephone/telehealth appointments.

If during your telephone/telehealth consultation you are invited down for a consultation at the surgery, you will not be privately billed for the initial telephone/telehealth consultation.

Private Fee Schedule for commonly charged items from 1st January 2023

	<i>Our Fee</i>	<i>Rebate</i>	<i>Gap</i>
<i>In Surgery Consultations</i>			
Item 23 (Standard Consultation)	\$79.00	\$39.75	\$39.25
Item 36 (Long Consultation)	\$135.00	\$76.95	\$58.05
<i>Telephone Consultations</i>			
Item 91890 (< 6 minute consultation)	\$32.00	\$18.20	\$13.80
Item 91891 (> 6 minute consultation)*	\$69.00	\$39.75	\$29.25
<i>After Hours Rate (Saturday 1pm-5pm, Sundays and Public Holidays)</i>			
Item 5020 (Standard Consultation)	\$91.00	\$51.80	\$39.20
Item 5040 (Long Consultation)	\$147.00	\$88.80	\$58.20

For those who qualify for concession rates, our fee and the Gap will be \$20 less than indicated above. (e.g. In Surgery Consultation Item 23, our fee will be \$59.00 with the Gap \$19.25)

*Telephone appointments are for simple consultations (script renewals, results reviews) or due to COVID isolation requirements. If your appointment is after hours or is longer than 10 minutes, the fee charged may be more than \$69.

Home Visits

To qualify for a home visit, please discuss your eligibility with a doctor

<i>Home Visits</i>	<i>Our Fee</i>	<i>Rebate</i>	<i>Gap</i>
24/1 (Std)	\$127.00	\$67.60	\$59.40
37/1 (Long)	\$184.00	\$104.80	\$79.20
<i>Discount home visits (for pensioners only)</i>			
24/1 (Std)	\$107.00	\$67.60	\$39.40
37/1 (Long)	\$164.00	\$104.80	\$59.20

Medical Procedures

Procedures vary in cost and complexity and so our procedure fees also vary with cost and complexity. Procedures such as minor surgery eg: suturing, removal of skin lumps/cancers may attract an extra fee for all patient categories. Please discuss the expected cost with your doctor before the procedure.

Workcover

For Workcover matters you should be aware that you are responsible for the account until your employer has agreed to pay your medical fees. Usually you will have to pay the account and claim the cost back from your employer. Once your claim has been accepted by a workcover insurer we will generally bill the insurer directly.

Allied Health

<i>Podiatry</i>	<i>Private Fee</i>	<i>Physiotherapy</i>	<i>Private Fee</i>
Initial – Standard & Concession	\$90.00	Initial – Standard & Concession	\$110.00
Review – Standard	\$75.00	Review – Standard & Concession	\$100.00
Review – Concession	\$72.00	Medicare CDMP/EPC	\$76.00
Medicare CDMP/EPC	\$72.00		

Please note that those with a valid Care Plan will be out of pocket \$16 for Podiatry (Pay \$72 on the day with Medicare Rebate to you \$56) and \$20 for Physiotherapy (Pay \$76 on the day with Medicare Rebate to you \$56). We can process Private Health Insurance claims for private fees at the time of your visit.