

## Colin Longworth's copy of (Psychologist) info from the Medicare website

The new 13 March 2020 MBS items can now be claimed, and the MBS software files are available to download [excerpts\*]

*It appears to me [C.L.] that clients with a GP Mental Health Care plan can receive Psychologist services via phone or Telehealth but need to meet the following criteria:*

**Vulnerable/isolated patients** are those where at least one of the following apply:

- (a) the person has been diagnosed with COVID-19 virus but who is not a patient of a hospital; or
- (b) the person has been required to isolate themselves in quarantine in accordance with home isolation guidance issued by Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC); or
- (c) the person is considered more susceptible to the COVID-19 virus being a person who is:
  - (i) at least 70 years old; or
  - (ii) at least 50 years old and is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; or
  - (iii) is pregnant; or
  - (iv) is a parent of a child under 12 months; or
  - (v) is already under treatment for chronic health conditions or is immune compromised; or
- (d) the person meets the current national triage protocol criteria for suspected COVID-19 infection.

*While details of the new MBS items continue to develop, it is anticipated that 'telehealth attendance' can include either video-conferencing or phone attendance, for the health professionals outlined in the tables below. These items will be claimable from 13 March 2020 and further items will be added to the MBS XML and MBS Online as soon as possible.*

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<i>Psychologists</i>			
80101	Professional attendance lasting more than 20 minutes but less than 50 minutes	91169	Telehealth attendance lasting more than 20 minutes but less than 50 minutes
80111	Professional attendance lasting at least 50 minutes	91170	Telehealth attendance lasting at least 50 minutes

### MENTAL HEALTH TELEPHONE ATTENDANCES

Existing Items		COVID-19 Telephone items	
<i>Psychologists</i>			
80101	Professional attendance lasting more than 20 minutes but less than 50 minutes	91183	Telephone attendance lasting more than 20 minutes but less than 50 minutes
80111	Professional attendance lasting at least 50 minutes	91184	Telephone attendance lasting at least 50 minutes

If you get a new GP Mental Health Care plan, it can be faxed to Colin Longworth at **(08) 9463 6378** or get your GP to send it by secure messaging to **ARGUS: arguslrh-dale@coreplus.com.au** or **HEALTHLINK: lrh-dale**