



Wednesday, 2 December 2009

Notice of Closure - State Vaccine Centre

The State Vaccine Centre will be closed from the 18 December 2009 to 4 January 2010.

MBS Update - Additional PN Services for Aboriginal Patients

From 1 November 2009, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have received a health assessment can access up to 10 Practice Nurse follow-up services per calendar year under MBS item 10987. This is in addition to items 10997, items 81300 to 81360, and items 10950 to 10970. Please note: In NSW, this item number applies only to Practice Nurses. Aboriginal Health Workers in NSW are unable to claim this item.

The following information is from www.health.gov.au/epc:
MBS Follow-up Health Services provided by a Practice Nurse or registered Aboriginal Health Worker for an Indigenous Person who has received a health assessment

MBS Item 10987 allows Indigenous people who have received any MBS health assessment item, or Indigenous children who have received a health assessment as part of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER), to access Medicare rebates for follow up services provided by a practice nurse or registered Aboriginal health worker. A maximum of 10 services per patient is available in a calendar year.

\$1000 one-off payment from Medicare ends 31 Dec 2009

On 31 December 2009, the Transitional Support Package (TSP) one-off lump sum and 18 cents incentive payments will end. The Transitional Support Package comprises a range of incentives for GPs, specialists, pathologists and software vendors to support the take up of electronic Medicare claiming. Your practices can still apply for the TSP until this date, with final payments being made in mid January 2010.

The application form is available on the Medicare Website.

Incentive for GPs:

- A one-off, lump sum payment of \$750 for metropolitan areas and \$1000 for regional/rural areas for practices taking up Medicare Online or Medicare Easy claim between 1 September 2007 and 31 December 2009.
- An 18 cents incentive calculated with reference to each electronic bulk bill and patient claim transmitted between 1 September 2007 and 31 December 2009.

For more information call 1800 700 199* (option 4) or email tsp.payments@medicareaustralia.gov.au

Rural Health Education Foundation Upcoming Programs

Topic	Date	AEDT	Channel	Live?	Repeat of Broadcast
917: Chronic Kidney Disease - A Silent Condition	Tue 8 Dec	8.00pm	4		11 Dec 12.30pm Channel 23