



Government Changes to Medicare Billing from 19th of January

Consultations less than ten minutes for patients who do not have a health care card, on a pension or a child under 16.

Rebate for non concessional patients	\$11.96
Practice Costs 35 to 50 %	\$ 4.18
GP costs (superannuation, sick leave, insurance costs, registration)	\$ 2.00
GPs receive	\$ 5.78
6 patients an hour so hourly rate is	\$34.68 per hour

Consultations less than ten minutes for patients with a pension, Health Care Card or children under 16.

Rebate for a concessional patient	\$16.95
Bonus for GP bulk billing	\$6.15
Total GP Payment prior to expenses	\$23.10

Dear Member

As you already know Medicare is changing the rules and fees around Item Numbers from the 19th of January. There hasn't been much media coverage and the patients don't know about the changes.

As you can see from the figures, GPs are going to find it difficult to Bulk Bill non-concession holders. Patients who are privately billed are going to get \$5

less back from Medicare. Please print out the figures and show them to your patients.

The RACGP have put out a poster to display in the surgery and template letters to send to your local politician or Tony Abbott the Prime Minister.

GPpartners have provided letters below for you and your patients to send to their Minister or Prime Minister. There is also the poster from the RACGP.

It is an important issue which is going to affect us all.

Dr Jayne Ingham
Chair

[RACGP poster for patients \(pdf\)](#)

[See sample letter to Prime Minister from GPs \(pdf\)](#)

[Download sample letter to Prime Minister from GPs \(word doc\)](#)

[See sample letter to Prime Minister from patients \(pdf\)](#)

[Download sample letter to Prime Minister from patients \(word doc\)](#)

Addresses for your reference:

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