

Medicare Programs (Money back for private services)



Name of the Program	Who can use the Program	How many times can I use the Program?	Who do I need to speak to?	Which private services can I use?
Helping Children With Autism (HCWA)	Under 13 years	4 assessment sessions to assist with the diagnosis in total <u>not</u> every year	Paediatrician Psychiatrist	Speech pathologist Occupational therapist (OT) Psychologist Audiologist <i>(Important: Check that your therapist is registered with this item before starting therapy)</i> Optometrist Physiotherapist Orthoptist
Helping Children With Autism (HCWA)	Under 15 years	20 therapy sessions in total <u>not</u> every year	Paediatrician Psychiatrist	Speech pathologist Occupational therapist (OT) Psychologist Audiologist <i>(Important: Check that your therapist is registered with this item before starting therapy)</i> Optometrist Physiotherapist Orthoptist
Chronic Disease Management (CDM) Plan	Any age	5 therapy sessions in total every year	GP (local doctor)	Speech pathologist Psychologist Dietician Audiologist Diabetes Educator Osteopath Occupational Therapist (OT) Physiotherapist Aboriginal Health Worker Chiropractor Exercise Physiologist Podiatrist <i>(Important: Check that your therapist is registered with this item before starting therapy)</i>
Better Access to Mental Health Care Plan	Any age	6 (+ 4 extra with referral) individual therapy sessions <i>and</i> 6 (+4 extra with referral) group therapy sessions in total every year	GP (local doctor)	Occupational Therapist (OT) Psychologist Social Worker <i>(Important: Check that your therapist is registered with this item before starting therapy)</i>

Medicare is the name of Australia's health care system. Medicare gives people some money back after they have paid to see a doctor or other health related service. Doctors and other health services can be found in a hospital or in the community.

Who do I need to speak to?

Paediatrician

A Paediatrician is a medical doctor who specialises in the medical care of infants, children and teenagers.

Psychologist / Clinical Psychologist

Clinical and other Psychologists are experts in personal counselling to help a person improve themselves and their interaction in groups. They can help to reduce an individual's difficult behaviours while working to develop and promote new behaviours and social skills. They raise a child's awareness of their emotions, while working with the parents to develop strategies to effectively deal with difficult behaviours. They are sometimes just called psych's.

Speech Pathologist / Therapist

Speech Pathologists, also known as speechies, provide a wide range of services for both individuals and families. They provide advice for the treatment and management of speech and communication disorders. They are specialists at identifying whether a child's language and communication development is delayed or different from other children.

Occupational Therapist

Occupational Therapists help improve motor function and reasoning, assisting people to live independently. A child's play is their occupation so an OT can help children learn to play. They can help a person who has sensitivities to their environment. They can also help with other life skills including toilet training, holding a pencil and learning to climb.

Social Workers

Social workers aim to develop the potential of people they work with to improve the person's quality of life. Social workers can provide counselling and provide or develop emotional support.

Audiologists

Audiologists are specialists trained to diagnose, manage and treat hearing and balance problems. They are also trained in counselling and sign language.

Physiotherapists

Physiotherapists diagnose and treat people of all ages to help them move and function better.

Psychiatrist

A doctor who has special training in helping people with a mental illness.

For more autism information and support call the **Autism Advisor Program**

1300 978 611 Email: autismadvisor@autismspectrum.org.au



For a language interpreter call 13 14 50

