

NEWSLETTER

Assignment of Benefits Medicare Bulk Billing



According to the Department of Health and Aged Care, an Assignment of Benefit (AoB) is the process by which a patient authorises their Medicare benefit to be paid directly to their healthcare provider, rather than to themselves. This is commonly used for bulk-billed services, where Medicare covers the full cost of the consultation.

If your doctor chooses to bulk bill your appointment, you will need to provide consent for us to submit the claim directly to Medicare on your behalf. With changes to this process expected from July, you may receive a text message or email requesting your approval.

Please ensure you complete this consent request promptly. If consent is not provided, a private fee may be charged for your consultation.

If you have any questions about the Assignment of Benefit process, please speak with a member of our reception team.

Immunisation update – Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

The RSV vaccine is now available free of charge for:

- women at 28–36 weeks pregnancy (prior to 37 weeks)
- adults aged 75 years and over
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 60 years and over
- young children aged 8 months to under 2 years who have medical risk factors for severe RSV disease in their second RSV season.

It is also available for infants up to 8 months:

- whose mother did not receive the RSV vaccine during pregnancy
- who were born within 2 weeks after the mother receiving an RSV vaccine
- who have a condition or circumstance that increases their risk of severe RSV disease

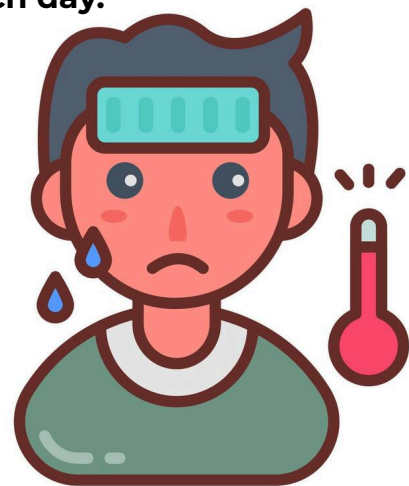
Please speak with your doctor or one of our nursing team if you would like any further information.

Reception Reminder – Isolation appointments

To help keep our patients safe and prevent the spread of contagious conditions, MSC offers isolation appointments each day.

When booking, reception may ask if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Cough
- Cold or flu symptoms
- Fever
- Nausea or vomiting
- Rash
- Diarrhoea



If you have any of these symptoms, you will be booked into an isolation appointment. This helps protect vulnerable patients, including those who are pregnant, immunocompromised, or elderly. When you arrive, please park in the rear carpark and stay in your car. Call reception to let us know what vehicle you are in so the GP can find you when it is time for your consultation.

If your symptoms worsen before your appointment, please contact reception.

Thank you for your cooperation and kindness towards our team.

**Reception Team:**

Emma is finishing up at the end of June to pursue her writing and has also accepted a teaching position at Melbourne University. We are very excited for Em in this new chapter and look forward to reading her published novel(s)!

Nursing Team:

Ruby has joined the MSC nursing team and is working across both care plan and treatment room appointments - please make sure to say hello!

Focus on Cough Etiquette

To ensure safety and prevent the spread of germs, follow these guidelines when coughing or sneezing:

- **Cover your mouth and nose:** Use a tissue or your elbow if no tissue is available.
- **Wash your hands:** Use soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% to 95% alcohol.
- **Avoid close contact:** Turn away from others when coughing or sneezing to minimize the spread of germs.
- **Wear a face mask:** If possible, wearing a mask can further reduce the rate of respiratory droplets reaching others.

Remember, these actions are essential for maintaining a healthy environment and protecting those around you from respiratory diseases.

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