

Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services – Phone Consultation for COVID-19 Hotspots) Determination 2021

I, Louise Riley, delegate of the Minister for Health and Aged Care, make the following Determination.

Dated 16 July 2021

Louise Riley Assistance Secretary MBS Review Branch Medical Benefits Division Health Resourcing Group Department of Health



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1 Name

This instrument is the *Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Section 3C General Medical Services – Phone Consultation for COVID-19 Hotspots) Determination* 2021.

2 Commencement

(1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information					
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3			
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details			
1. The whole of this instrument	16 July 2021				

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

(2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this instrument. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this instrument.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsection 3C(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

4 Schedules

Each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1— Amendments

Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services - COVID-19 Telehealth and Telephone Attendances) Determination 2020

1. Subsection 5(1) (definition of person who is in a COVID-19 impacted area)

Repeal the definition, substitute:

person who is in a COVID-19 Commonwealth declared hotspot means a patient who, at the time of accessing the service, is located in an area determined by the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer to be a COVID-19 hotspot.

2. Paragraph 8(9)(c)

Repeal the paragraph, substitute:

- (c) a person who is in a COVID-19 Commonwealth declared hotspot; or
- (ca) a person who is in COVID-19 isolation because of a State or Territory public health order; or
- (cb) a person who is in COVID-19 quarantine because of a State or Territory public health order; or

3. Subsection 8(10)

Omit "39 and 40", substitute "39, 40 or 41".

4. Paragraph 1.1.5(1)(c) of Schedule 1

Omit "and 92217," substitute "92217, 92746 or 92747".

5. Paragraph 1.1.8(1)(c) of Schedule 1

Omit "and 92217," substitute "92217, 92746 or 92747".

6. Schedule 1 (after item 92742)

Insert

92746

Subgroup 41 – COVID-19 impacted general practice phone services

Phone attendance by a general practitioner lasting at least 20 minutes in duration, if:

89.10

- (a) the service is performed on:
 - (i) a person who is in a COVID-19 Commonwealth declared hotspot; or
 - (ii) a person who is in COVID-19 isolation because of a State or Territory public health order; or
 - (iii) a person who is in COVID-19 quarantine because of a State or Territory public health order; and
- (b) the attendance includes any of the following that are clinically relevant:
 - (i) taking a detailed patient history;
 - (ii) arranging any necessary investigation;
 - (iii) implementing a management plan;
 - (iv) providing appropriate preventative health care

92747	Phone attendance by a medical practitioner (not including a	44.70
	general practitioner, specialist or consultant physician) lasting	
	at least 20 minutes in duration, if:	
	(a) the service is performed on:	
	(i) a person who is in a COVID-19 Commonwealth	
	declared hotspot; or	
	(ii) a person who is in COVID-19 isolation because of a	
	State or Territory public health order; or	
	(iii) a person who is in COVID-19 quarantine because	
	of a State or Territory public health order; and	
	(b) the attendance includes any of the following that are	
	clinically relevant:	
	(i) taking a detailed patient history;	
	(ii) arranging any necessary investigation;	
	(iii) implementing a management plan;	
	(iv) providing appropriate preventative health care	

7. Subclause 3.1.3(3) of Schedule 3

Omit "91892 or 91893", substitute "91892, 91893, 92746 or 92747".