
How Do I Refer?

The referral process to a Shared Care Clinician requires the completion of a Mental Health Treatment Plan. This can be claimed from Medicare Australia under Item 2710, once only in a 12 month period.

**** Please note that it is important that this plan also include a provisional diagnosis.***

Once completed the client should be given a copy of the Plan and a Consumer Brochure explaining the Shared Care program. The referral should then be faxed to the Division for allocation and an appointment booking.

A review of a patient care plan can be completed twice in any 12 month period. This can be claimed under Item No 2712.

A GP Mental Health consultation of 20 minutes or more can routinely be held between GPs, clinician and patient. This is Item No 2713.

Chronic Disease Management Case conferences can also be undertaken between GPs, Practice Nurses and Shared Care Clinicians and can be claimed under Item No 729–773.

More Information?

WHO CAN I TALK TO IF I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROGRAM?

If you would like further information please contact your local Shared Care clinician.

Janet McIlwaine - Bordertown
(08) 8752 1322

Information can also be obtained through the Limestone Coast Division of General Practice.
Tel: (08) 8733 0160



*Limestone Coast Division of
General Practice Mental
Health Services*



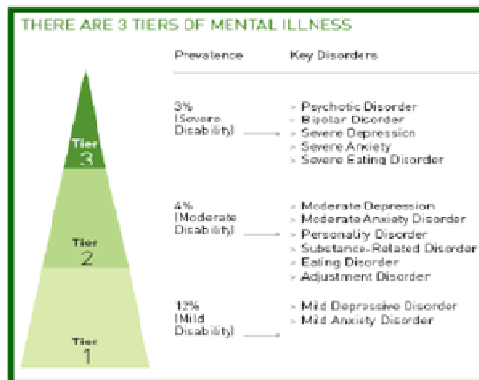
MENTAL HEALTH SHARED CARE IN GENERAL PRACTICE

GP Information

**Limestone Coast Division of
General Practice**

Background Information

The Mental Health Shared Care Program in General Practice is targeted to provide specialist mental health assessments, intervention and reviews for patients with a severe mental illness which fall under the category of a Tier 3 mental health disorder. Tier 3 mental illness is defined in the chart below.



Trained Mental Health Clinicians will work with patients to provide counselling and ongoing support. This will assist the patient to increase their skills and knowledge Regarding a range of issues that may be Affecting their mental health and wellbeing.

Who is Eligible?

The following conditions are eligible for this service as a Tier 3 condition:

- Schizophrenia
- Bipolar Disorder
- Severe depression
- Severe anxiety
- Personality disorders
- Severe eating disorders
- Co-morbidity

If your patient has any of the above conditions this person is appropriate for a referral to a Mental Health Shared Care Clinician.

In addition patients who are not responding to care and in your opinion are at further risk of deterioration or are experiencing chronic relapses are also eligible. This might include patients with a Tier 2 disorder who require early intervention in Order to prevent a deterioration in their mental health. Patients who have been recently discharged from a specialist Mental Health Care facility are also eligible.

The following conditions are considered Tier 2 mental health disorders:

- Moderate depression
- Moderate anxiety disorder
- Personality disorder
- Substance related disorder
- Eating disorder
- Adjustment disorder
- Uncomplicated grief
- Child sexual abuse
- Domestic violence

Co Morbidity Data Collection

Research shows that 43 per cent of Australians with a mental disorder have a chronic physical illness such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, anaemia, high blood pressure, heart disease, arthritis, kidney disease, diabetes, cancer, stomach or duodenal ulcers, chronic gall bladder or liver problems.

By collecting information surrounding these diseases we can begin to map a correlation between improvement in mental status and physical health resurgence.

Information we are required to record include the following

- Blood pressure
- Lipid measurements
- HbA1c
- Body mass index
- Smoking and Immunisation status

Is there a cost to my Patient?

There is **NO CHARGE** for these services.

The Mental Health Workers are paid on a contract basis by the Division of General Practice with funding from the Commonwealth Department of