



Budget 2020-21

This information is accurate as at 7 October 2020.

COVID-19 Response Package – supporting mental health nationally

The Better Access Pandemic Support measure provides up to 10 additional individual telehealth and face to face psychological therapy sessions each calendar year. These sessions will help people who have used all of their 10 existing sessions in the calendar year.

These sessions will help people on a mental health care plan.

This measure is under the Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners through the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) initiative.

This change is subject to the passage of legislation.

Who does this measure affect?

This affects:

- medical practitioners
- allied health professionals
- people who have a mental health care plan.

When will this start and finish?

For Victoria:

This started on 7 August 2020.

Nationally:

This starts on 9 October 2020, telehealth services will finish on 31 March 2021 and face to face services will finish on 30 June 2022.