

**CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT ITEMS  
JULY 2006-JUNE 2007**

**SUMMARY**

**TABLE 1: GP services**

**Uptake of GP management plans has stabilised with only a 5% increase on 2005-06.**

**Based on the number of GP management plans developed in 2005-06, it seems that less than 50% of these plans were reviewed in 2006-07, and on the same criteria, about 50% of team care plans developed in 2005-06 were reviewed in 2006-07. What does this mean for overall success of the program and for continuity of services to chronically ill patients?**

**Assuming 1 plan = 1 patient, then twice as many patients are managed on GP plans as on team care plans.**

**The Explanatory Notes to the MBS state (A.30.9) that it is expected that in most cases a patient with complex needs would have both a GP management plan and a team care arrangement. Thus it is likely that the total number of patients managed under this program is less than the sum of the number of care plans developed and/or reviewed in any given year.**

**The uptake of GP plans for aged care patients has increased by 93% over 2005-06, but numbers are still low. There are currently around 166,000 people in residential aged care facilities, and there are around 53,000 permanent admissions to residential aged care facilities every year. Only a fraction of these residents are managed under a multidisciplinary care plan.**

**Medicare reimbursement to GP for services provided in the community (100% rebate):**

<b>721</b>	<b>\$127:70</b>
<b>723</b>	<b>\$101:15</b>
<b>725</b>	<b>\$63:85</b>
<b>727</b>	<b>\$63:85</b>
<b>729</b>	<b>\$62:30</b>
<b>731</b>	<b>\$62:30</b>

**TABLE 2 & 3: Allied Health Services**

**All allied health services show an increase over levels in 2005-06.**

**Increases in audiology, dietician, and physiotherapy services are in line with the increase in team care plans.**

**There are greater increases in the use of diabetes educator, exercise physiologist, occupational therapist, podiatrist and chiropract, chiropractor, osteopath and speech pathologist services. (note that the increase in the use of exercise physiotherapy services is high because the rebate for access to these services was not introduced until Jan 06)**

**There has been a decline in the use of items for mental health workers and psychologists, coincident with the introduction of new Medicare items for psychological therapy services on 1 November 2006.**

**Given that each patient referred to allied health services under the CDM program is eligible for up to 5 services, then this program is serving no more than 930,599 people with a chronic illness, and could be serving as few as 186,120 people.**

**35% of all AHS items are for physiotherapy, and 44% of these services are provided in NSW.**

**33% of all AHS items are for podiatry and chiropody, and 40% of these services are provided in NSW.**

**The item for access to Aboriginal health workers is not used. This may indicate that CDM items are not used for Indigenous patients.**

**43% of all services provided in the NT were for podiatry and chiropody.**

**Only 54 mental health services have been provided in the Northern Territory in the past 2 years.**

**No audiology services have been provided in the Northern Territory in the past 2 years.**

**TABLE 4: Dental services**

**Uptake of these items is still very low, although there has been a 40% increase over 2005-06.**

**70% of services are delivered in NSW.**

**In Tasmania and the Northern Territory there has been a decline in the number of services delivered, presumably reflecting the unavailability of services and/or the high out-of-pocket costs for patients.**

**On average each patient given a dental assessment receives 1.3 dental services.**

**TABLE 1: Chronic disease management Medicare items  
GP services and cost July 2006 – June 2007**

<b>Item</b>	<b>July'06</b>	<b>Aug'06</b>	<b>Sept'06</b>	<b>Oct'06</b>	<b>Nov'06</b>	<b>Dec'06</b>	<b>Jan'07</b>	<b>Feb'07</b>	<b>Mar'07</b>	<b>Apr'07</b>	<b>May'07</b>	<b>June'07</b>	<b>Total services</b>	<b>% previous year</b>
<b>721 GP mgt plan</b>	56,897	66,737	59,511	57,680	65,014	53,320	46,642	52,261	58,044	44,384	64,054	54,134	678,678	+5%
<b>723 Team care arr</b>	32,185	37,553	33,914	33084	36340	29315	27084	32112	35959	27,858	39,981	33,667	399,052	+57%
<b>725 Review GP mgt plan</b>	28,733	31,457	30,908	31,442	35,152	31,981	30,689	35,703	40,629	30,999	45,037	35,345	408,075	+135%
<b>727 Review team care arr</b>	7,604	8,778	8,609	9,093	10,234	9,177	10,205	11,671	13,644	10,104	14,432	11,492	125,043	+157%
<b>729 GP contrib. to review</b>	108	134	163	146	100	109	106	123	169	96	174	92	1,520	+28%
<b>731 GP plan for aged care</b>	1,981	1,874	1,915	1,746	2,365	1,984	1,358	1,960	1,861	1,555	2,208	1,858	22,665	+93%
<b>TOTAL SERVICES</b>	<b>127,508</b>	<b>146,533</b>	<b>135,020</b>	<b>133,101</b>	<b>149,205</b>	<b>125,886</b>	<b>116,084</b>	<b>133,830</b>	<b>150,306</b>	<b>114,996</b>	<b>165,886</b>	<b>136,588</b>	<b>1,635,033</b>	<b>+44%</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$12.39m</b>	<b>\$14.35m</b>	<b>\$13.07m</b>	<b>\$12.82m</b>	<b>\$14.60m</b>	<b>\$12.22m</b>	<b>\$11.12m</b>	<b>\$12.75m</b>	<b>\$14.29m</b>	<b>\$10.94m</b>	<b>\$15.78m</b>	<b>\$13.10m</b>	<b>\$157.44m</b>	<b>+34%</b>

**TABLE 2: Chronic disease management Medicare items  
Allied health services and cost July 2006 – June 2007**

Item No	July'06	Aug'06	Sept'06	Oct'06	Nov'06	Dec'06	Jan'07	Feb'07	Mar'07	Apr'07	May'07	June'07	Total services	% change	Total Cost (\$)
<b>10950 AHW</b>	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	5	-29%	\$233
<b>10951 Diabetes educator</b>	1,092	1,341	1,093	1,353	1,372	1,320	1,169	1,121	1,505	1,241	1,828	1,558	15,993	+105%	\$7.43m
<b>10952 Audiologist</b>	33	16	22	54	20	35	30	42	50	36	73	80	491	+54%	\$23,486
<b>10953 Ex physiologist</b>	1,788	1,984	2,316	2,475	2,641	1,921	2,110	2,477	2,687	2,613	3,364	3,193	29,369	+647%	\$13.69m
<b>10954 Dietician</b>	7,698	7,899	7,842	8,399	9,652	8,070	7,075	8,329	9,188	8,009	10,780	9,823	102,764	+41%	\$47.79m
<b>10956 M H worker</b>	393	384	426	499	485	402	296	227	241	134	224	193	3,903	+43%	\$189,972
<b>10958 Occ therapist</b>	611	753	627	646	906	646	558	643	907	856	1,073	910	9,136	+85%	\$445,034
<b>10960 Physiotherapist</b>	22,381	24,197	25,456	24,322	26,567	25,050	27,221	26,525	32,430	25,701	35,198	31,784	326,832	+61%	\$15.19m
<b>10962 Pod/Chiro</b>	19,238	21,228	21,327	22,825	24,974	22,059	24,226	28,240	30,307	26,590	36,337	32,622	310,023	+107%	\$14.37m
<b>10964 Chiropractor</b>	2,248	2,474	2,531	2,809	3,035	3,280	2,739	2,931	3,673	3,412	4,780	4,106	38,018	+95%	\$1.72m
<b>10966 Osteopath</b>	1,064	1,107	1,309	1,108	1,328	1,438	1,291	1,290	1,697	1,614	2,208	2,134	17,588	+78%	\$821,918
<b>10968 Psychologist</b>	6,125	6,271	6,619	6,520	6,532	4,885	3,072	2,705	2,270	1,347	1,688	1,164	49,190	+8%	\$2.46m
<b>10970 Speech path</b>	1,338	2,091	2,019	1,773	2,437	2,429	1,200	2,064	3,073	2,198	3,317	3,348	27,287	+140%	\$1.32m
<b>Total</b>													<b>930,599</b>	<b>+75%</b>	<b>\$43.43m</b>

**TABLE 3: Chronic disease management Medicare items  
Services by state and territory July 2006 – June 2007**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>
<b>10950 AHW</b>	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
<b>10951 Diabetes educator</b>	3,739	5,844	2,276	1,992	1,349	659	57	77
<b>10952 Audiologist</b>	72	156	30	48	178	1	6	-
<b>10953 Ex physiologist</b>	10,491	4,726	5,917	1,724	5,557	666	283	5
<b>10954 Dietician</b>	42,762	23,081	21,726	5,871	8,402	441	438	43
<b>10956 M H worker</b>	1,658	1,052	732	274	152	24	10	1
<b>10958 Occ therapist</b>	3,770	2,965	1,275	315	760	-	27	24
<b>10960 Physiotherapist</b>	143,243	88,237	55,539	15,568	19,526	2,769	1,573	377
<b>10962 Pod/Chiro</b>	114,668	94,647	39,992	29,764	24,044	5,744	660	504
<b>10964 Chiropractor</b>	18,151	13,339	3,385	1,665	834	335	398	11
<b>10966 Osteopath</b>	5,803	9,422	1,659	37	206	363	83	15
<b>10968 Psychologist</b>	18,718	15,249	9,825	2,048	1,631	1,237	447	35
<b>10970 Speech path</b>	14,773	5,884	4,374	342	1,595	180	67	72

**TABLE 4: Chronic disease management Medicare items  
Dental services and cost July 2006 – June 2007**

Item No	July'06	Aug'06	Sept'06	Oct'06	Nov'06	Dec'06	Jan'07	Feb'07	Mar'07	Apr'07	May'07	June'07	Total services	% change	Total Cost (\$)
<b>10975 Dental assessment</b>	249	244	241	254	292	253	216	305	330	257	344	354	3,339	+33%	\$253,304
<b>10976 Treatment</b>	311	328	327	372	423	360	261	355	393	326	462	455	4,373	+46%	\$550,337
<b>10977 Dentist referred treatment</b>	1	3	7	2	2	5	3	4	5	3	2	5	42	+2%	\$41,988
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>7,754</b>	<b>+40%</b>	<b>\$845,649</b>

**Chronic disease management Medicare items  
Dental services by state and territory July 2006 – June 2007**

Item No	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	ACT	NT
<b>All items (% change)</b>	4,558 (+36%)	1,916 (+75%)	662 (+14%)	350 (+39%)	175 (+23%)	40 (-53%)	50 (+400%)	3 (-77%)

**Allied Health and Dental Care: Out-of-pocket costs for period 1 July 2005 – 31 March 2006**  
*(More recent data not available)*

<b>Item Descriptor</b>	<b>Average out-of-pocket cost per service ** (\$)</b>
Aboriginal Health Worker 10950	\$0
Diabetes Educator 10951	\$9.56
Audiology 10952	\$22.83
Exercise Physiologist 10953	\$10.40
Dietitian 10954	\$10.51
Mental Health Worker 10956	\$30.37
Occupational therapy 10958	\$19.84
Physiotherapy 10960	\$5.03
Chiropody/ Podiatry 10962	\$3.41
Chiropractic 10964	\$2.71
Osteopathy 10966	\$10.75
Psychology 10968	\$37.55
Speech Pathology 10970	\$15.82

\*\* Average out-of-pocket costs relate only to services which are not bulk billed  
 Note that these costs count towards the Medicare safety net

<b>Item Descriptor</b>	<b>Average out-of-pocket cost per service ** (\$)</b>
Dental Assessment 10975	\$26.02
Dental treatment 10976	\$73.03
Assessment or treatment by Dental specialist - 10977	\$524.96

\*\* Average out-of-pocket costs relate only to services which are not bulk billed  
Note that these costs count towards the Medicare safety net