

Autism Assessment Referrals

If you wish to access a rebate through Medicare for an autism assessment, a valid referral needs to be provided to Learning Curve Psychology one week prior to your initial appointment. If you would like to know how much rebate you will receive, please call Medicare on 13 2011 and quote the item number 82000.

Autism Assessment from a Paediatrician or Psychiatrist

Only a Paediatrician or Psychiatrist (in private practice) can refer a client for an autism assessment under the Helping Children with Autism Scheme – Better Access to Diagnosis. Psychiatrists must bill between item numbers 296 and 370 (except 359) and paediatricians must bill between item numbers 110 and 131 to give access to this Medicare rebate. To see a paediatrician you must first obtain a referral from your GP. To be eligible for this referral, the child must be under 13 years old. Learning Curve Psychology must receive a letter of referral from the Paediatrician or Psychiatrist with the following details:

- Addressed as either “To the Psychologist”, or by name to the specific psychologist with whom you have your appointment. The referral letter cannot be addressed to a different psychologist;
- The address/contact details of Learning Curve Psychology;
- Specify the client name and date of birth;
- Specify the type of referral i.e. under the Helping Children with Autism – Better Access to diagnosis;
- Any other relevant details as deemed necessary by the Paediatrician/Psychiatrist;
- Have the contact details of the Paediatrician/Psychiatrist and their clinic, as well as their Medicare Provider Number;
- Be signed and dated by the Paediatrician/Psychiatrist.

Please note there are only four sessions available under this item number over all services (including speech therapy, occupational therapy and psychology). The referral letter should state the number of sessions that have been allocated to psychology. It is the client's responsibility to check whether other service providers have or intend to bill under this allowance. Call Medicare if you are unsure.