

## Mental Health Care/Treatment Plans

If you wish to access a rebate through Medicare for general counselling/therapy, a valid Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan 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 80110.

### ***Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan from a GP***

The client must attend an extended appointment with their GP prior to the psychology appointment in order to provide access to this rebate. The GP will conduct an assessment and, if they believe the client is eligible, prepare a Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan and bill accordingly to Medicare. After the plan has been prepared, Learning Curve Psychology must receive a letter of referral from the GP with the following details:

- Addressed as either "To the Psychologist", or by name to the specific psychologist with whom you have your appointment;
- The address/contact details of Learning Curve Psychology;
- Specify the client name and date of birth;
- Specify that a Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan has been prepared and that the psychologist is required to provide services under the plan (the number of sessions required may also be specified, up to a maximum of 6);
- The specific condition the client requires treatment for;
- The contact details of the GP and the clinic, as well as the GP's Medicare Provider Number;
- Signed and dated by the GP (please note date must be prior to the appointment date).

The Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan may be attached to this referral letter; however it is up to the GP to determine if it is necessary to do so. A copy of the Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan without the referral letter does **not** constitute a valid referral.

### ***Mental Health Care/Treatment Plan from a Paediatrician or Psychiatrist***

If a Paediatrician or Psychiatrist (in private practice) refers a client under the Better Access to Mental Health scheme, a Mental Health Care Plan does not need to be prepared; however the appropriate referral item number must be billed to Medicare prior to the psychology appointment to be claimed. The requirements for the referral letter as stated above also apply.