



Yellow Gum

PSYCHOLOGY

Client Information: Re-Referrals

After your initial referral (usually 6 sessions), you may be eligible for a Medicare rebate for further appointments, up to a total of 10 per person in any one calendar year.

The steps for this to occur are:

1. Attend your appointment with your psychologist

At the final session of your referral, you and your psychologist will usually review your original goals, treatment provided, progress, and future plans (including continuing treatment). At this time you and your psychologist will decide together if additional sessions are likely to be useful to you.

2. Your psychologist will write a summary letter to the referring GP.

This letter goes to the GP who first referred you, and will summarise the treatment to date and request additional sessions. It also outlines what is required from the GP.

Your psychologist will usually send this within a week after your 6th session, however occasionally there can be delays.

Your GP will usually prefer to have this when they see you.

3. Visit your GP for a review.

Ideally this would be the same GP who did your initial referral, but it does not have to be.

You should not need a longer appointment than usual, but ask the GP clinic when booking.

4. The GP writes a referral for further rebated sessions.

This referral letter is needed by the psychologist at or prior to your next appointment to allow you to claim Medicare rebates for your treatment.

The GP may send this directly to Yellow Gum Psychology, or they may give this to you. If they give it to you, please let us know.

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Frequently Asked Questions

What if I want to (or have to) see a different GP?

Your psychologist must send the letter to the GP who first referred you. If that was not your usual GP, or you have changed GPs, you can request (and provide consent for) your psychologist to also send a copy of the report to your new GP.

If your new GP is at the same clinic as your referring GP, they may still be able to access the psychologist's letter on your patient file. If not, you can still ask them to write a referral for continued treatment with your current psychologist.

What if I can't get an appointment?

Medicare does not allow a rebate to apply retrospectively. If you are unable to see your GP/obtain a referral before your next appointment, you can either:

- attend your scheduled appointment at a full session fee; or
- reschedule your appointment until you have your referral, remembering to provide at least two business days' notice to avoid a cancellation fee.

What if I have an appointment with my GP before my 6th session, or before they receive the psychologist's letter?

You can talk to your GP about your treatment at any time, and your GP may appreciate the notice that you will be requesting additional sessions. Usually your GP will want to have the psychologist's letter to be able to discuss your treatment with you. However, if your GP makes a referral before the 6th session / letter, the referral may still be valid.