



New Better Access Family & Carer Items

From 1st March 2023, new item numbers were introduced to facilitate family and carer participation in treatment under the Better Access initiative.

This means that a session conducted with a family member, carer or other person without the client present, can now attract a rebate.

Please note the following points:

- This is an extension of Better Access, so the *client* must have a current Better Access MHCP and referral as it is part of their treatment.
- There is a maximum of **two** family and carer items that can be used in a calendar year and these items **replace** sessions where you would normally provide individual treatment and will therefore come off the 10 available rebates per calendar year.
- The referrer or allied health professional must determine it clinically appropriate to use these items, and have this recorded in the client notes.
- The client must consent to the other person receiving this service in regards to their treatment. The allied health professional must explain the service to the client, obtain the client's consent for the service to be provided to the other person and make a written record of the client's consent.
- These sessions can be provided in all formats currently allowed under Better Access: Face-to-face, telehealth or phone.
- Different, new item numbers apply for these sessions. You will need to use the correct item code to process payment for these sessions.



- The client cannot be in attendance in order for these items to be used.
- These items are not only for parents/carers of child clients, but for any client where the allied health professional has determined it beneficial to the client's treatment.

For more information and item number, please visit:

<http://www9.health.gov.au/mbs/fullDisplay.cfm?type=note&q=AN.7.31&qt=noteID&criteria=better%20access%20family%20carer>