



Refugee Health Queensland

Brisbane ✿ Cairns ✿ Logan ✿ Toowoomba ✿ Townsville ✿ Zillmere

Important changes to Refugee Health Assessment Medicare 714 item number

As part of the general review of Medicare Primary Care Items announced by the Australian Government in December 2009, the Refugee Health Assessment Medicare Item 714 will no longer exist from 1st May 2010.

Health assessments for target groups will be based on **time taken** to perform the assessment. Target groups include:

- **refugee and humanitarian entrant patients**
- Type 2 diabetic patients
- Healthy kids
- 75 yr old patients
- 45 yr olds patients
- aged care facility patients
- patients with intellectual disabilities

The new item numbers for **refugee and humanitarian entrant patients** are:

Item number	Description	Fee
701	Brief	\$55.00
703	Standard	\$127.80
705	Long	\$176.30
707	Prolonged consultation	\$249.10

Fact sheets outlining the details of these changes are available on

http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mbsprimarycareitems_information_1may2010.htm



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Important points for refugee health in Queensland

- The **requirements** for the refugee health assessment are **unlikely to change** but detailed **explanatory notes** will not be available until **1st May 2010**.
- **Refugee Health Queensland clinics** will continue to **perform health assessments** on all newly arrived refugees and provide **summaries to Community GPs**.
- Only **patients seen through the Brisbane Clinic** will have had the **Health Assessment Item** claimed prior to being referred.
- The **time taken** by private **General Practice Nurses** to assist the GP with the Health Assessment **may be added** to the Doctors consultation time.
- Due to the complexity often encountered in refugee patient presentations it is anticipated that the **Long (705) or Prolonged (707) Item numbers** will be most commonly **claimed by GPs**.
- The refugee health assessment can only be claimed **once** for eligible refugee patients and humanitarian entrants, however if they fall under other categories (eg. Diabetic patient) then the item numbers may be claimed again following the guidelines of the MBS.

Please contact **Refugee Health Queensland** if you have any questions regarding these changes on **(07) 3163 2880**.

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