

# Dr Andrew Parkin

## Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist

### Important Information about Appointments and Fees – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023

#### Appointments

- An initial appointment is 1½-1¾ hours
- This includes time with the family and individually (as appropriate)
- Both parent(s) / primary carer(s) are encouraged to attend the appointment (where appropriate)
- Additional appointments may be needed to complete the assessment
- Follow-up appointments are typically 45-50 minutes
- Appointments are not bulk billed
- Please bring a Medicare card that has your child's name on it to every appointment

**All appointment fees are payable on the day of the appointment.**

#### Before the initial appointment

Please provide Dr Parkin with the following documents, at least 2 days prior to the initial appointment:

- Previous clinic letters (e.g. from Paediatrician, Psychologist, Therapist, Social Worker)
- Recent School Reports (ideally the recent two reports)

Please send via the clinic email ([enquiries@southsidehealth.com.au](mailto:enquiries@southsidehealth.com.au)), fax (02 9579 2460), mail (12 The Avenue, Hurstville, NSW 2220), or drop them in to the clinic (open weekdays and Saturdays).

#### Fee for a standard initial assessment appointment

Total fee payable on the day	\$1,125.00
Medicare benefit	<u>\$411.35</u> (Medicare items 296 and 350)
<b>Out of pocket amount (Gap)</b>	<b>\$713.65</b>
<b>Gap with Extended Medicare Safety Net</b>	<b>\$142.73 *</b>

#### Follow-up appointment fees (which can only apply when the referred patient attends)

A standard follow-up appointment will be booked for 45-minutes, though only charged according to time spent. If you wish to book a longer follow-up appointment, then please advise the receptionist at the time of booking.

Service Description	Fee payable in full on the day	Medicare Benefit	Out of Pocket (Gap)	Gap with EMSN *
30+ mins (item 304)	350.00	125.80	224.20	44.84
45+ mins (item 306)	465.00	173.60	291.40	58.28
75+ mins (item 308)	625.00	201.45	423.55	84.71

*\* Families that have reached the Extended Medicare Safety Net will receive a Medicare benefit of up to 80% of this gap (please see 'Extended Medicare Safety Net' section below)*

## Appointments for parents, carers, or other people involved

Having separate appointments for parents or carers allows time to discuss issues without the child present. This can be an important aspect of assessment and ongoing management. Dr Parkin recommends 45-50 minutes for these appointments. Although Medicare provides benefits towards such appointments, there are limitations, which are described below.

Two benefits are available:

### A) Within one month of the child's initial attendance as part of the assessment

A benefit is available for someone other than the referred patient (e.g., parents, carers or other people involved) to attend appointments of 45 minutes or more (Medicare item 350) as part of the assessment, or if only a shorter appointment is needed of 20+ minutes (Medicare item 348).

Service Description for appointment attended by parent/carer	Fee	Medicare Benefit	Out of Pocket (Gap)	Gap with EMSN *
20+ mins within one month of the initial appointment (item 348)	335.00	119.80	215.20	43.04
45+ mins within one month of the initial appointment (item 350)	465.00	165.35	299.65	59.93

### B) More than one month after the child's initial attendance

A benefit is available for someone other than the referred patient for ongoing management (Medicare item 352) for 20+ minutes only. These are limited to four appointments in any one calendar year.

In order to extend this to 45+ minutes, there is an additional private fee of \$130.00, which unfortunately does not count towards the gap calculation for the Extended Medicare Safety Net.

Service Description for appointment attended by parent/carer	Fee	Medicare Benefit	Out of Pocket (Gap + private fee)	Out of Pocket with EMSN *
20+ mins more than one month after the initial appointment (item 352)	335.00	119.80	215.20	43.04
45+ mins more than one month after the initial appointment (item 352, which covers the first 20-25 minutes, plus private fee for remaining appointment time of 20-25 minutes)	335.00 + 130.00 = 465.00	119.80	215.20 (gap) + 130.00 (private fee) = 345.20	43.04 + 130.00 (private fee) = 173.04

*\* Families that have reached the Extended Medicare Safety Net will receive a Medicare benefit of up to 80% of this gap (please see below)*

## Extended Medicare Safety Net

You may be eligible to apply for the Extended Medicare Safety Net. This exists to protect families from large medical bills.

The safety net threshold (i.e., total medical expenses for all family members combined) is currently set at \$2,414.00 for 2023, or \$770.30 for Concession cardholders and families eligible for FTB Part A.

Once a family has reached this threshold, Medicare may refund 80% of the gap costs for the remainder of the calendar year. This resets on 1 January each year.

Please phone 132 011 or visit [www.medicare.gov.au](http://www.medicare.gov.au) for further information, or click on the direct link from the "About My Fee Information" page at [www.openskiespsychiatry.com.au](http://www.openskiespsychiatry.com.au).

## Online or telephone appointments (Telehealth)

Medicare provides benefits for online appointments that are equivalent to those for face-to-face appointments, and a limited number of benefits for telephone appointments (which do not include appointments not attended by the patient).

Prescriptions can be provided as e-scripts, or you can collect paper prescriptions from reception. Alternatively, you can request them to be posted to you. Certain prescriptions will need to be sent by either Recorded Delivery, for which an additional charge of \$25 is made for the administration of this. Prescriptions will only be faxed or email to a pharmacy in an emergency.

## Cancelled or missed appointments

Cancelled or missed appointments incur the following fees (**Please note: Medicare does not provide a benefit for cancellation fees**).

Duration of booked appointment	1½ hours	45 mins
Cancelled with less than one working day's notice	265.00	135.00
No show (did not attend scheduled appointment)	390.00	195.00

## Case conferences

Fees for case conferences may vary depending on location and composition of the case conference. The standard fee is \$465.00 for a 45-minute conference, with one of a range of Medicare benefits possibly available, depending on the type and duration of the case conference. Medicare requirements include attendance by other service providers of at least two different disciplines (e.g., teaching and psychology).

Any additional meeting time over 45 minutes will be charged at \$130 per full 15 minutes, for which no Medicare benefit is available. Travel costs if relevant (see below) will also be charged. Case conferences can be attended online. Further details can be provided on request.

## Online Medicare claiming

For your convenience, we can transmit your Medicare claim instantly, and Medicare will provide the benefit directly to the bank account that you have registered with Medicare.

## Services provided outside of appointment times

The following services will attract additional fees, for which no Medicare benefit is available and which are payable within 10 working days of the receipt of invoice.

### Provision of prescription outside of an appointment

For collection from reception or e-script	\$35
Posted to home address by Recorded Delivery	\$60
Faxed/emailed and posted to pharmacy (in urgent situations/emergencies only)	\$85

*Please note that GPs can provide repeat prescriptions except in the case of stimulant medication.*

## **Additional clinical and non-clinical administration**

As part of providing a comprehensive clinical service, Dr Parkin will prepare a detailed initial assessment letter to the referring doctor, a copy of which will be provided to parents and, with consent, healthcare professionals involved. Progress letters will also be sent to the referring doctor and other parties from time to time. The cost of this service is included in the above session fees.

**Other additional clinical and non-clinical administration not included in the session fees** will be charged at \$95 + GST (if applicable) per 15 minutes, for which no Medicare benefit is available. Services that are not directly related to medical treatment provided (e.g. provision of letters to third parties other than healthcare providers, completion of claim forms, completion of NESA medical forms) will additionally incur GST.

Administration fees may be billed for:

- Review of detailed reports (except brief reports as part of assessment)
- Preparation of letters or completion of forms (except routine clinic letters)
- Extended telephone / email contact with family members or professionals

## **Travel**

Meetings may be attended at a site other than the clinic if there is a clinical indication to do so (such as a case conference), though home visits are not undertaken. Travel will incur the following charges:

**Distance:** 85c/km (ATO rate from July 2023)  
**Plus time:** \$50 per 15 minutes

**For more general information see [www.openskiespsychiatry.com.au](http://www.openskiespsychiatry.com.au)**