

KOOWEERUP REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Non Eligible Medicare Client Fees

DOCUMENT TYPE

PROCEDURE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure fees for care services relating to Non Eligible Medicare clients are established.

POLICY

Kooweerup Regional Health Service (KRHS) will provide a health care service that is sustainable and meets the needs of all community groups.

The fees schedule will accommodate the needs of all sections of the community and be in line with Medicare directives.

This policy applies only to Non Eligible Medicare clients.

GENERAL

Patients upon establishing a sufficient Proof of Identity, and who hold a valid Medicare card will be eligible to use the facilities of KRHS.

All patients (especially new patients) should be asked to produce their Medicare card on attendance:

- Confirm that the Medicare number and expiry date is recorded.
- Check that the name on the card matches the patient name. If in doubt, ask to see another form of ID such as a driver's license or credit card.
- Ensure all patient demographic details are recorded i.e address, phone, NOK.

Those patients who do not hold a Medicare card will be deemed to be an Overseas Visitor and will personally incur costs for the healthcare provided by KRHS unless part of reciprocal care agreement (see below).

KRHS will structure fees at full cost recovery. Full cost recovery will apply to:

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- Accommodation Charges (Same day and overnight) for single/shared wards.
- Early Parenting Unit.
- Home based services.
- Pathology costs.
- Diagnostics- Minimum 100% MBS.
- Medical costs- Minimum 100% MBS.
- Outpatient services.
- Drugs and pharmaceuticals.

OVERSEAS PATIENTS

Overseas visitors on temporary visas are not eligible for Medicare benefits unless they are from a country with which Australia has a 'Reciprocal Health Care Agreement'.

If the patient is non-Australian and does not have a Medicare card, check if their country of residence (need to sight passport) is listed for reciprocal health care agreements. Those countries include:

- United Kingdom
- Ireland
- New Zealand
- Sweden
- Finland
- Norway
- Slovenia
- Belgium/Netherlands
- Italy (6 months from date of arrival)
- Malta (6 months from date of arrival)

Patients fitting the criteria above are entitled to treatment as public patients. This includes if the patient is admitted to the ward. All other clients will be charged for their treatment (see below).

DOCUMENTATION FOR OVERSEAS CLIENT

Take photocopies of all relevant documents including:

- Overseas travel insurance

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- Credit cards
 - Passport
 - Reciprocal Health Care card (issued by Medicare)
 - Copy of Visa
 - Proof of enrolment in the home county's health system.

Patients on certain visa's are required to hold adequate health insurance while in Australia. This insurance can be claimed against if medical care is required while in Australia.

Visa's that have mandatory insurance requirements include:

- Student visa applicants (Subclasses 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575 and 576).
- Temporary visas (Subclasses 405, 410, 411, 415, 416, 419, 420,421, 422, 423, 427, 428, 442, 457, 470 and 580).
- 405 and 410 visas: Ordinarily holders of these visas are not eligible for Medicare unless exceptional circumstances can be shown. To determine exceptional circumstances please review;

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements>

- Patients that are not Medicare eligible or not subject to the privileges of reciprocal health care arrangements (above) will incur the cost of treatment.

This treatment must be paid at the point of care.

The fees are set at full cost recovery as follows.

PATIENT CLASSIFICATION		RATES FOR 2018-2019
		ACCOMMODATION CHARGES – FEE PER DAY
• Single Room (same days)		\$160
• Shared Room (same day)		\$198
• Overnight (Multi day) Single room		\$618
• Overnight (Multi day- Shared Room)		\$519

OUTPATIENTS – FEE PER ENCOUNTER	
• Allied Health	\$165
• Home Based Nursing Service (Including Postnatal visit)	\$98

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/feesman/fees1.htm>

Medications will be provided at full cost recovery.

ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES

Asylum Seekers and Refugees are provided with free medical care (Including diagnostic services) in Victorian hospitals. Asylum Seekers/Refugees will need to produce appropriate documents confirming their status from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship or a recognised asylum support agency, such as Red Cross. If the document is not produced patients will be expected to pay for all associated medical costs; however the fee will be waived once the documents are presented.

RELEVANT STANDARDS

EQULPNational by Standards : 1 Governance for Safety and Quality in Health Service Organisations, 14 Information Management, 15 Corporate Systems and Safety

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