

Dear Senate Inquiry Members,

I oppose the reduction in Clinical Psychology session numbers funded per year by Medicare. 10 sessions is not enough time to fully treat the majority of mental health presentations. Textbook standard treatments are typically 12 sessions in length for straight forward cases, and often real life is not so straight forward. Clinical Psychologists in private practice should not ethically take on clients for treatment who can not be fully treated (including relapse prevention) in the sessions available, which leaves the majority of the population needing psychological help waiting for months on swamped state funded public mental health system waitlists.

Yours faithfully

Michele Arthur

Clinical Psychologist