

I would like this email to register my protest regarding two issues

1] two tier Medicare system

Psychologists who have obtained post graduate degrees are well trained and across several areas of psychology. It is an ethical obligation for a psychologist not to practice outside their area of expertise. Clinical psychologists do not received any special training over and above the standard applied to ALL psychological disciplines.

2] reduction of number of Medicare funded psychology sessions available to clients
Working in a private practice it is very clear that most clients require the 12 sessions in order to adequately resolve their problems. Intervention covers three main areas and these include :

Establishing a therapeutic relationship with the client by listening to their issues and demonstrating an understanding of their challenges

Providing appropriate therapeutic intervention. Monitoring the progress and refining the intervention as the process unfolds

Planning for the future in order to ensure a safe and sustainable recovery and to prevent a relapse

It is a struggle to cover all bases within the current 12 sessions, [at time additional sessions are required]

It would be impossible to provide adequate professional and enduring intervention in only 10 sessions.

Thank you

Ruane Lipkie
Psychologist