

Absence of a mandatory professional Report to clients by Allied Health Professionals under Medicare.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I refer to the present situation and practice, under Medicare referrals, whereby Allied Health Professionals

(eg Psychologists) are only required to provide a brief one page feedback letter to the referring GP. Normal

clinical practice, would require that a comprehensive Report be provided to the mother of the child client, or adult

client, giving details of assessment, other procedures covered, and full details of Recommendations.

Not providing this essential service abrogates the RIGHTS of the parent, or adult client, for feedback,

and invalidates the clinical process (as would always be carried out in private practice),

I would suggest that funding for a Clinical Report to each client is provided at (say) 2x the amount of a

clinical interview. The client could sign a form to demonstrate that they had received their Report, which

could be then sent with the session claims to Medicare. At present very few Psychologists (for example)

are providing this service pro bono (ie they are providing a charity), most Psychologists do not fulfil this

requirement. I have raised this serious issue on several occasions with the Administration of the Australian

Psychological Society and they are in full support. Typical of comments I received were; "this a very valid

point"; " your suggestion conforms to best clinical practice'. I was informed by Professor Littlefield that she

will persist in making Medicare aware of this vital issue.

Please telephone me if you have any queries in this Submission. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

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