

Please be advised that as of 31.10.2022., all GPs at HealthSense Medical Centres Fairview Green & Golden Grove will be mixed billing. Those eligible for bulk billing will continue to be bulk billed, whilst all other patients will be charged a private fee.

### BULK BILLING ELIGIBILITY

- New or Existing Patients **15 years of age or under**
- Those with a **Healthcare Card** or **Commonwealth Pension Card** (excludes white Seniors Card)
- **DVA** Card Holders
- **Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander** patients
- **Telephone Consults** for Medicare cardholders who have visited a GP at our practice within the past 12 months

### Billing Policy

The following fees will apply to patients no longer eligible for bulk billing. Patients will be required to pay the **FULL AMOUNT** on the day of consultation (payments via credit or debit card only). We will process your Medicare claim instantaneously and the Medicare rebate will be refunded to your account, typically within 24 hours.

### PRIVATE FEES

CONSULT CRITERIA	OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE
Consults <b>less</b> than 15 minutes	\$20
	\$20
Consults <b>longer</b> than 15 minutes	\$40
	\$40
<b>After Hours</b>	
Consults <b>less</b> than 15 minutes	\$20
	\$20
Consults <b>longer</b> than 15 minutes	\$40
	\$40

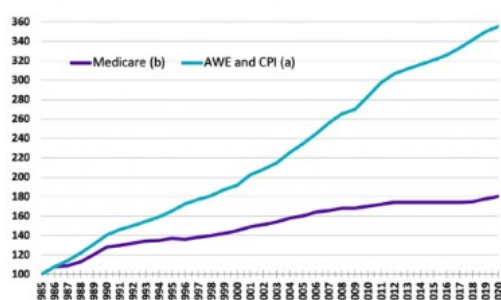
**\*All Care Plans, Health Assessments and Mental Health Care Plans will continue to be BULK BILLED\***

Some medical procedures will incur a gap fee. Please speak with our reception staff or your GP. All non-medicare rebatable services including pre-employment medicals, insurance paperwork will incur a private fee.

### Why are GPs now charging a gap?

GPs predominantly work in privately owned and operated practices. There are many costs involved in operating a clinic including staff wages, rent and medical equipment, which continue to increase year on year. Despite the increasing costs of delivering medical services, the Australian Government has not increased the Medicare rebate enough to support your ongoing healthcare. The graph below shows the difference between the rising costs of living (the top line) and the amount the government invests in your healthcare (bottom line). You will notice that these lines are moving further apart. **This is why your GP is now charging a fee.**

Figure 3: Why is there a gap?<sup>10</sup>  
 (a) Index comprising of Average Weekly Earnings and Consumer Price Index (70:30).  
 (b) Index of MBS rebates as determined by the Commonwealth Government.



*If you are as angry as we are that both sides of politics have neglected your healthcare needs so much – tell your local federal MP you want your **rebate restored, the freezes and the cuts reversed.***



Australian Society of General Practice