



Community Nursing BULLETIN No. 34

December 2021

FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ALL DVA COMMUNITY NURSING STAFF

This bulletin is being issued to provide an update to Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Community Nursing (CN) providers about changes to the Notes for Community Nursing Providers, annual fee indexation, extension to COVID-19 pandemic provisions, referral forms and Christmas shut-down period.

Community Nursing Schedule of Fees – Indexation

Annual fee indexation has been applied to the DVA Community Nursing Schedule of Fees. Indexation will take effect from 1 January 2022 for claim periods commencing on or after this date. The new schedule can be found on the [DVA website](#) at

Notes for Community Nursing Providers – December version

The Notes for Community Nursing Providers (the Notes) have been reviewed, and minor updates made. These updates include:

- COVID-19 pandemic provisions have been extended, and will now be in place until 30 September 2022
- Clarifications to the Exceptional Case process

The Notes will be available on the DVA website in early January 2022.

Community Nursing Referral Form

DVA CN has developed the Community Nursing Referral Form to support the referral process for DVA clients to engage services from Community Nursing Providers. The form is for use by GPs, Nurse Practitioners and hospitals when referring veterans for CN services. Form D9389 Community Nursing Referral Form will be made available from January 2022 under the [Provider forms page](#) on the DVA website and on the [CN webpage](#). Use of the CN Referral Form is not mandatory and referrals on letterheads or other forms can still be accepted as long as they meet the requirements in the Notes.

A reminder that referrals from hospital treating doctors and discharge planners are only valid for seven (7) days post discharge. An updated referral is required from the client's GP to cover ongoing care

beyond the seven (7) day period. If you experience any concerns with referrals, please contact CN at nursing@dva.gov.au.

Statistics about the Veteran Population

DVA publishes a range of statistics about the veteran population. This information is available on the DVA website at [Statistics about the veteran population | Department of Veterans' Affairs \(dva.gov.au\)](#), available for those interested in accessing statistics about the veteran population.

Christmas Shut-Down

DVA offices including the Community Nursing Program, will be closed from 5pm Friday 24 December 2021 reopening 8.30am Tuesday 4 January 2022.

We wish you a safe and Merry Christmas.

Updates to Contact Details

If you have any changes to contact or other provider details, please contact the Community Nursing Contracts team via email at: Community.Nursing.Contracts@dva.gov.au