



Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs

# COMMUNITY NURSING NEWSLETTER No. 46



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The *Community Nursing Newsletter* is issued to provide updates to Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)

## Additional Travel

Fee items in the Community Nursing (CN) Schedule of Fees (SoF) include a component for travel to and from clients' homes. However, CN providers may provide services to clients in rural and remote areas where an exceptional amount of travel is required. If this occurs, an additional

these travel costs.

### Eligibility criteria

Additional travel must meet both of the following criteria in order to be eligible for payment:

- your client resides in a regional or remote area, classified under the Modified Monash Model (MMM) as regions MMM4 to MMM7 (<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/health-workforce-locator/app>); and
- the distance is over 20 kilometres for each segment being claimed, i.e. from the staff member's (nurse or personal care worker) departure point to the next destination for each segment.

The region the staff member is travelling from to deliver services to a client does not impact eligibility to claim additional travel.

You cannot claim for additional travel if:

- you are already claiming additional travel for another client in the same region who is visited on the same day; or
- your client does not live in an MMM4 to MMM7 region, regardless of the departure point of the staff member for the journey; or
- the distance is 20 kilometres or less for each segment of the staff member's journey.

### Claiming for additional travel

Where the travel costs incurred meet the criteria above, you can submit a claim for the eligible client using item number NA10. NA10 can be claimed as an add-on item in the same 28-day claim claim period.

When preparing the claim:

- the first 20 kilometres of the staff member's journey to and from the client's address must be deducted from the overall distance,
- the claim is submitted after the end of the relevant 28-day claim period, and
- the claim is in line with claiming timeframes.

The fee amount for NA10 is calculated at a rate of 76 cents per kilometre.

## Claiming scenario

CN provider Outback Care is the only approved provider servicing a rural area. A nurse from Outback Care conducts the following journey to provide services to a DVA CN client residing in an MMM6 area.

The distance to the eligible client's home is 45 kilometres from another client's home, being the nurse's departure point on the trip to this client. The nurse then travels home, which is another 50 kilometres. The nurse visits the rural client once per week and follows the same pattern for each visit, which means the travel was conducted four times in a 28-day claim period.

Once the claim period has finished, Outback Care calculates the following:

1. The first 20 kilometres are removed from the travel to and from the client:
  - a. Eligible travel to the client = 25 kilometres
  - b. Eligible travel from the client = 30 kilometres
  - c. Eligible travel totals 55 kilometres for one trip.
2. The four trips in the 28-day claim period equal a total of 220 kilometres (4 x 55 kms).
3. 220 kms x 0.76 cents/km = \$167.20.

Outback Care can then claim NA10 at a fee of \$167.20 for the claim period. When submitting the claim for additional travel, the kilometres being claimed and the dollar amount should be entered into the claim field, *with the kilometres entered first*.

## Further Information

Further information about additional travel can be found in the [Notes for Community Nursing Providers](#).

## REMINDER: Fair Work Commission Historical Leave Liabilities Application

As advised in the CN Newsletter released in March 2024 (available on the DVA website at [Community Nursing Newsletters](#)), eligible providers are able to submit applications for funding of historical leave liabilities resulting from the aged care wage increase that took effect from 1 July 2023. If you are eligible to apply for this funding and have not yet submitted an application to DVA, please submit the application by 30 April 2024 to [leaveliabilities@dva.gov.au](mailto:leaveliabilities@dva.gov.au).



For providers who need the application form and information re-sent to them, please email [leaveliabilities@dva.gov.au](mailto:leaveliabilities@dva.gov.au) to request this documentation.