

# **SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS SCHEDULE OF FEES EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 2024**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Treatment Cycle**

- Treatment cycle referral arrangements were introduced on 1 October 2019.
- For more information providers must refer to Notes for Allied Health Providers - Section One: General and Section 2(1).

**The treatment cycle does not apply to the following:**

<b>SH21-27</b>	<b>Evaluate Clinical Assessment</b>
<b>SH28-29 &amp; SH74</b>	<b>LSVT LOUD</b>
<b>SH76-78</b>	<b>Multi-disciplinary case conferencing</b>
<b>SH90</b>	<b>End of Cycle Report</b>
<b>SH99</b>	<b>Request for Service</b>

**Any allied health services provided to a DVA client while they are admitted to hospital.**

### **Consultation/Assessment**

- Treatment for White Card holders must be related to an accepted disability. Eligibility must be established before starting treatment.

**Shaded items require prior financial authorisation from DVA. To obtain prior financial authorisation, please contact DVA using the contact details at the end of the Schedule.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION TO ASSIST YOU WHEN TREATING MEMBERS OF THE VETERAN COMMUNITY IS CONTAINED IN THE 'NOTES FOR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS' AVAILABLE ON THE DVA WEBSITE AT:**

**<http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/allied-health-professionals>**

## **FACE-TO-FACE SERVICES**

### **ROOMS**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)</b>	<b>GST STATUS ++</b>
SH01	Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH11	Conduct Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free
SH21	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

### **HOME**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)</b>	<b>GST STATUS ++</b>
SH02	Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH12	Conduct Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free
SH22	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

## **PERMANENT TELEHEALTH SERVICES**

- Permanent telehealth services must be provided in accordance with the conditions set out in the *Notes for Allied Health Providers – Section One: General*.
- Telehealth services can only be provided if the full service can be delivered safely and in accordance with all relevant professional standards and clinical guidelines.
- Services without a specific telehealth item number must be delivered in person.
- The first consultations of each treatment cycle cannot be provided by telehealth under permanent arrangements.
- Telephone consultations can only be provided when video conferencing is unavailable.
- Telehealth services can only be claimed where a visual or audio link has been established with the patient.
- Telehealth services may be delivered to clients in hospital or residential aged care facilities, where the equivalent in person service does not require prior approval.
- Telehealth may be considered outside of these requirements on a case by case basis via prior financial authorisation.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH70	Consultation – Video Conference	\$122.40	GST-free
SH71	Consultation – Phone Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH72	Conduct Clinical Assessment – Video Conference	\$122.40	GST-free
SH73	Conduct Clinical Assessment – Phone Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH74	LSVT LOUD – Video Conference	\$122.40	GST-free

### **TREATMENT CYCLE**

- Only one End of Cycle Report item can be claimed with each treatment cycle.
- Item is only claimable after an End of Cycle Report has been submitted to the DVA client’s usual GP.
- To support continuity of care, an End of Cycle Report can be submitted after eight sessions of treatment. However, a total of 12 sessions should still be provided before moving to a new treatment cycle.
- Where the DVA client requires a shorter length of treatment and an additional treatment cycle is not required, a minimum of two sessions of treatment must be provided before an End of Cycle Report can be claimed.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	FEE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH90	End of Cycle Report	\$33.65	Taxable

### **MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CASE CONFERENCING**

- These items can be claimed for participating in multi-disciplinary case conferences.
- The case conference must be organised by the DVA client’s usual general practitioner (GP), as defined in the Notes for allied health providers Section One: General.
- The case conference must include at least two allied health providers.
- Only one item per DVA client can be claimed in a three month period.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	FEE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH76	GP initiated case conference – 15 to less than 20 minutes	\$55.65	GST-free
SH77	GP initiated case conference – 20 to less than 40 minutes	\$95.45	GST-free
SH78	GP initiated case conference – 40 minutes and over	\$158.80	GST-free

## PRIVATE HOSPITALS

- Treatment cycle arrangements do not apply to allied health treatment provided to DVA clients while they are admitted to hospital.
- The Department will only pay for health care services carried out by providers in private hospitals when the contract between DVA and the hospital does not already cover these services.
- It is the provider's responsibility to determine whether or not health care services are included in the bed-day rate under the DVA contract, before providing services. This can be done by contacting the Veteran Liaison Officer at the hospital or DVA.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH04	Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH14	Conduct Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free
SH24	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

## RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES (RACFs)

- A case-mix based funding model for aged care commenced on 1 October 2022 – the Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC).
- It is the responsibility of the RACF to provide allied health services consistent with each resident's individual care plan.
- It is the health care provider's responsibility to determine if the RACF is funded to deliver the allied health service before treatment is provided.
- DVA will only pay for an allied health service delivered to a DVA client living in a RACF, if the facility is not otherwise funded to provide that service.
- Where DVA funds treatment, Treatment Cycle arrangements **apply** to the services provided to DVA clients in a RACF.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH06	Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH16	Conduct Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free
SH26	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

## **PUBLIC HOSPITALS**

Treatment cycle arrangements do not apply to allied health treatment provided to DVA clients while they are admitted to hospital.

The Department will only pay for health care services carried out in public hospitals in exceptional circumstances, and only where DVA has given prior financial authorisation.

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)</b>	<b>GST STATUS ++</b>
SH03	Consultation	\$122.40	GST-free
SH13	Conduct Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free
SH23	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

## **SPECIAL CENTRE**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>HOURLY RATE (excluding GST)</b>	<b>GST STATUS ++</b>
SH17	Conduct Clinical Assessment (i.e. visiting a specialist centre for special assessment; e.g. videofluoroscopy)	\$122.40	GST-free
SH27	Evaluate Clinical Assessment	\$122.40	GST-free

## **LEE SILVERMAN VOICE TREATMENT PROGRAM**

- LSVT LOUD can be delivered by telehealth – video conference only.
- The treatment cycle referral arrangements do not apply to the Lee Silverman Voice Treatment Program (LSVT LOUD).
- Only speech pathologists who have completed specialist training and are LSVT LOUD Certified Clinicians can provide the LSVT LOUD program to entitled persons.
- The program consists of 18 sessions:
  - 1 x Pre-treatment Initial Assessment session
  - 16 x Treatment sessions
  - 1 x Post-treatment Review Assessment session.
- The 16 individual treatment sessions are 60 minutes each in duration, and they are delivered on 4 consecutive days per week for 4 consecutive weeks.
- Prior approval is not necessary for the maximum of 18 sessions per 12 months.
- If the client requires more than 18 LSVT LOUD sessions in a 12 month period, prior approval must be sought.
- Items SH28, SH29 and SH74 should be claimed for all aspects of the program.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	FEE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH28	LSVT LOUD – In Rooms	\$122.40	GST-free
SH29	LSVT LOUD – Out of Rooms	\$122.40	GST-free
SH74	LSVT LOUD – Video Conference	\$122.40	GST-free

### **OUT OF ROOMS LOADING**

Out of Rooms loading is automatically added to consultations delivered outside of rooms. Only one loading per visit is permitted, and it is expected that you will perform the evaluation of assessments in your rooms.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	FEE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
Loading	Out of Rooms Loading	\$30.60	GST-free

### **DIRECT SUPPLY TO DVA**

*(Subject to prior financial authorisation)*

Use item number SH99 only when DVA contacts you directly to request that you provide:

- a written report; or
- a consultation or assessment to eligible veterans or war widows/ers, either separately or in conjunction with a written report.

For example, this may occur when DVA requires a second opinion concerning treatment for a veteran. DVA will give financial authorisation and advise the fee at the time of the request, according to the above schedule items. The kilometre allowance is included in the fee, and is **not** to be claimed in addition to the fee.

***Please note: This item does not cover the supply of clinical notes, care plans or other information requested by DVA as part of monitoring activities, as these are provided free-of-charge under DVA requirements.***

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	FEE (excluding GST)	GST STATUS ++
SH99	Report or service specifically requested by DVA	Fee specified at time of request	Taxable

### **KEY**

<b>++ Recognised Professional</b>	Paragraph 38-10(1)(b) of the GST Act states that only a ‘recognised professional’ can supply GST-free health services as listed in section 38-10. Please refer to section 195-1 of the GST Act for the definition of ‘recognised professional’ for GST purposes.
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## DVA CONTACTS

Further information on allied health services may be obtained from DVA. The contact numbers for health care providers requiring further information or prior financial authorisation for all States & Territories are listed below:

### PHONE NUMBER:

1800 550 457 (Select Option 3, then Option 1)

### POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES:

Health Approvals & Home Care Section  
Department of Veterans' Affairs  
GPO Box 9998  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

### DVA WEBSITE:

<http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/allied-health-professionals>

**DVA email for prior financial authorisation:**  
[health.approval@dva.gov.au](mailto:health.approval@dva.gov.au)

The appropriate prior approval request form can be found at: <https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/services-requiring-prior-approval>

## CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

For more information about claims for payment visit: <https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/claiming-and-compliance/provider-claims>

**Claim Enquiries:** 1300 550 017  
(Option 2 Allied Health)

### Claiming Online and DVA Webclaim

DVA offers online claiming utilising Medicare Online Claiming. DVA Webclaim is available on the Services Australia [Provider Digital Access \(PRODA\) Service](#). For more information about the online solutions available:

- DVA Webclaim/Technical Support – Phone 1800 700 199 or email [eBusiness@servicesaustralia.gov.au](mailto:eBusiness@servicesaustralia.gov.au)
- Billing, banking and claim enquiries – Phone 1300 550 017
- Visit the Services Australia website at: [doing business online](#)

### Manual Claiming

Please send all claims for payment to:

Veterans' Affairs Processing  
Services Australia  
GPO Box 964  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

DVA provider fillable and printable health care claim forms & service vouchers are also available on the DVA website at:

<https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/provider-forms>