

Remuneration Rates for Sessional Visiting Medical Officers

Summary This Information Bulletin sets out the remuneration rates for Sessional Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) for services rendered on or after 1 July 2023.

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Applies to Local Health Districts, Board Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Chief Executive Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Specialty Network Governed Statutory Health Corporations, Affiliated Health Organisations, NSW Health Pathology, Public Health System Support Division, Cancer Institute, Public Hospitals

Distributed to Public Health System, Health Associations Unions

Audience Medical Administration;Finance;Visiting Medical Officers



Remuneration Rates for Sessional Visiting Medical Officers

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to provide information on the revised remuneration rates for sessional visiting medical officers (VMOs) for services rendered on or after 1 July 2023.

KEY INFORMATION

NSW Health organisations are required to remunerate VMOs in accordance with these rates unless approval to provide non-standard rates and conditions has been provided by the NSW Ministry of Health.

NSW Health organisation must ensure

That services provided under the VMOs service contracts are provided personally by the contracted VMO and are not sub-contracted out of performance by another practitioner

Split contracts in respect of services to be provided at the one facility are only offered in circumstances outlined in NSW Health Policy Directive *Visiting Practitioner Appointments in the NSW Public Health System* (PD2016_052)

Note that this Information Bulletin does **not** apply to VMOs who are:

- remunerated under the arrangements set by the rural doctors' settlement package
- appointed as a pathologist
- appointed as a radiologist where there has not been agreement for standard sessional remuneration to apply.

Chief Executives are accountable for ensuring that the remuneration authorised in the Information Bulletin, or otherwise specifically approved by the NSW Ministry of Health, is paid to VMOs.

Any enquiries concerning this Information Bulletin should be directed to the Human Resource or Medical Administration personnel in the relevant NSW Health organisation. Only Human Resource or Medical Administration personnel are to directly contact the NSW Ministry of Health.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Sessional Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration

Sessional Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration

1. *Sessional Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration Rates*

- 1.1 The ordinary hourly rates and on call rates which Public Health Organisations are authorised to pay to sessional Visiting Medical Officers have increased by 4% for services rendered on or after 1 July 2023. Background practice costs have also increased by 4%.
- 1.2 Where a sessional Visiting Medical Officer is called back to duty, public health organisations are authorised to pay additional remuneration as follows:
- (a) For services provided during a call-back within the hours of 8.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday inclusive (other than on a public holiday) - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 10%.
 - (b) For services provided during a call-back outside the hours of 8.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday inclusive - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 25%.
 - (c) For services provided during a call-back on a public holiday - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 50%.
- 1.3 A sessional Visiting Medical Officer shall be paid the following hourly rate of remuneration for each ordinary hour (and on a proportionate basis to the nearest quarter hour) specified in a sessional contract:

Classification	Rate per hour
a) General Practitioner	
i. with less than 5 years' experience	\$168.20
ii. with at least 5 years' experience and/or who has been admitted to Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and/or Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine	\$216.15
b) Specialist	\$244.70
c) Senior Specialist	\$262.60

BACKGROUND PRACTICE COSTS

Classification	Rate per hour
a) Anaesthetist, Physician and General Practitioner	\$31.15
b) Surgeon	\$52.05

and on a proportionate basis to the nearest quarter hour.

ON-CALL

A sessional Visiting Medical Officer shall be paid an amount as shown below for each hour

(or part thereof) the officer is rostered to be on-call. This amount remains payable to a Visiting Medical Officer during periods spent travelling or rendering services pursuant to a call-back.

Rate per hour
\$15.50

2. **Regional Visiting Medical Officers**

2.1 **Regional Visiting Medical Officer** means a Visiting Medical Officer who is appointed:

- (a) for a continuous period of at least 12 months under a service contract in respect of one or more of the regional hospitals listed below; and
- (b) under a service contract with terms and conditions that are in accordance with the standard arrangements approved by the NSW Ministry of Health.

2.2 The authorised fee payable to a sessional regional Visiting Medical Officer:

- (a) who provides a call-back service at a regional hospital listed below; and
- (b) whose usual place of residence is within a 50 kilometres radius of the regional hospital where the call-back service is provided, is a further 10% loading on the amount that would otherwise have been payable (as provided for at paragraph 1.2) in respect of that occasion of service.

3. **Funding**

Budget supplementation for the revised fees will be provided by the Ministry based on existing public health organisation budgets for Visiting Medical Officers.

4. **Regional Hospitals**

Albury Base Hospital
 Armidale Hospital
 Bathurst Base Hospital
 Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital
 Broken Hill Health Service
 Coffs Harbour Base Hospital
 Dubbo Base Hospital
 Goulburn Base Hospital
 Grafton Base Hospital
 Griffith Base Hospital
 Kempsey District Hospital
 Lismore Base Hospital
 Maitland Hospital
 Manning Base Hospital
 Murwillumbah Hospital
 Orange Base Hospital
 Port Macquarie Base Hospital
 Queanbeyan District Hospital
 South East Regional Hospital
 Shoalhaven Hospital
 Tamworth Base Hospital
 Tweed Heads District Hospital
 Wagga Wagga Base Hospital