Department of Health and Aged Care

Health care plans for chronic health problems

Health Fact Sheet

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# Chronic health problems

Some people have **chronic** health problems. **Chronic** means something lasts a long time. Chronic health problems last 6 months or more. There are lots of chronic health problems like:

• Asthma

• Diabetes

• Epilepsy

Ask your doctor if you have a chronic health problem.

# Plans

Your doctor can make a **health care plan** for you. The **health care plan** says how to manage your chronic health problems. To make a plan your doctor will talk with you. You will talk about what you can do for your chronic health problem. Your doctor will tell you how they can help.

# Using other health services

Your doctor might talk about other health services that can help you. This will be based on what you need. Your doctor might talk to your other health services. Tell your doctor if there are things you do not want them to tell your other health services.

# Will health services cost money?

Some health services are free with Medicare. Some health services cost money. Sometimes Medicare gives you a **rebate**. A **rebate** is when you get money back. Ask each health service how much it costs. Ask if your plan means you can get a rebate.

# Changing plans

Your doctor will review your plan with you. You will talk about how it is going. Your doctor can make changes to the plan. They will make changes you both agree on.

# Health fact sheets

We have info about **yearly health checks here.** <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/yearly-health-checks-easy-read?language=en>

We have info about **your right to good health care** here. <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/your-right-to-good-health-care-easy-read?language=en>

We have info about **adult health services** here. <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/adult-health-services-easy-read?language=en>

There are other health fact sheets and resources for health professionals managing patients with intellectual disability here. <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/primary-care-enhancement-program-for-people-with-intellectual-disability>

**Health.gov.au**

All information in this publication is correct as at July 2023.

This information was developed by the Council for Intellectual Disability using funding from the Department’s Primary Care Enhancement Program for People with Intellectual Disability.