



General Practice in Aged Care Incentive – Frequently asked questions for aged care residents and carers

Eligibility

Who is eligible to receive the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

To be eligible, patients must:

- permanently live in a residential aged care home, not including respite care
- be [registered in MyMedicare](#)
- have their practice agree to deliver the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, including:
 - linking them to the practice and responsible provider in MyMedicare.
 - selecting the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive indicator on their MyMedicare profile.

Who is a responsible provider?

A 'responsible provider' is a medical practitioner who holds an eligible speciality code, as outlined in the [program guidelines](#). This practitioner is responsible for coordinating the delivery of eligible services to the registered patient as part of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. This includes services they deliver or that are provided by other healthcare professionals at the practice.

The medical practitioner must be linked to their eligible practice in the organisation register. They must also be declared as the responsible provider of eligible services to the registered patient, including coordinating services provided by the care team.

Speak to your GP or the aged care provider to find out more about the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.



Is there a minimum age requirement for aged care residents to be eligible for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

There is no lower age requirement for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. Younger people are eligible to participate in the incentive, provided they are a permanent resident of an aged care home.

What is considered a residential aged care home?

Residential aged care homes are homes for older people who can no longer live in their own home. Aged care homes include accommodation and personal care 24 hours a day, with access to nursing and general health care services. All government-funded aged care homes must meet certain standards to ensure residents receive the appropriate level of care to meet their needs.

Can residents in respite care participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

No, to be eligible for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, older people must be a permanent resident of a residential aged care home. This does not include respite care.

Can residents in an aged care program not registered under the *Aged Care Act* participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

Residents receiving care through flexible aged care programs, such as the Multi-Purpose Services and National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care programs, are eligible for the incentive where:

- the residential aged care home meets the definition under the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive Program Guidelines
- the resident is in a permanent residential aged care place
- the practice, provider and patient meet all other eligibility and service delivery requirements.



How does a person without the capacity to consent participate in MyMedicare and the associated incentive programs?

If a person is incapable of providing consent to register in MyMedicare, a responsible person can provide consent and register on their behalf. This can be the parent or guardian of a minor, a person who holds power of attorney or a guardianship order, or the next of kin.

By consenting to MyMedicare, you are also providing consent to participate in incentive programs including the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

Residents should speak to their GP or aged care provider to find out more about the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

Registration

How do I register with the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

To be eligible for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, you will need to register for MyMedicare. More information on how to register for MyMedicare is available at health.gov.au/our-work/mymedicare/patients.

Once you are registered in MyMedicare, general practices are responsible for registering their eligible patients in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

Eligible registered patients can expect to receive a minimum of eight regular visits and two care planning sessions over a 12-month period from the responsible provider and the extended care team at their practice. Additional visits and care appointments are still possible as needed. It is recommended that you speak to your GP and/or practice if you would like to be a part of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

Can I choose my own GP or practice to access the services under the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

You will be able to register in MyMedicare with your chosen practice. It is up to the practice whether they want to deliver services under the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive and who the responsible provider will be.

You can change your MyMedicare practice at any time and register with a different practice if you meet the eligibility requirements and the practice is also registered.



I've registered with MyMedicare. How do I know if I'm registered for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

It is the responsibility of the practice to register their patients for the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. You should ask your practice or GP if they are participating in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

What if my regular practice is not participating in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

Practices are not required to participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive. We recommend you talk with your GP or practice about whether the benefits provided through participating will support your health care needs.

Your GP and practice should still deliver the care that you require even if they are not part of the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive.

Am I still eligible for the incentive if I have not seen my GP previously?

To participate in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive, patients will need to be registered in MyMedicare.

Patients who are participating in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive will be exempt from the MyMedicare requirement to visit their GP prior to registering for MyMedicare. Participating in the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive

Will I have to pay to receive General Practice in Aged Care Incentive services?

Regular Medicare Benefits Schedule, bulk billing and out of pockets costs will still apply for services as decided by the practice. Apart from this, there is no additional charge for you to receive the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive services from a responsible provider.

Can I withdraw from the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive?

Yes, you can withdraw from the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive at any time. To withdraw, you or a legally responsible person need to ask your practice to withdraw you from the program. Practices are required to withdraw a patient at their earliest opportunity after receiving a withdrawal request.



If you withdraw from MyMedicare, this will automatically mean you withdraw from the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive too.