



2 Bedbrook Place
Shenton Park
Western Australia 6008
www.workcover.wa.gov.au

telephone 08 9388 5555
facsimile 08 9388 5550
advisory services 1300 794 744
TTY 08 9388 5537
 @WorkCoverWA

WORKCOVER WA NOTICE

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY – UPPER LIMB SERVICES

This Notice clarifies the principles and rules applicable to upper limb services provided by Occupational Therapists

Principles

It is a fundamental principle that medical and allied health services are focussed on the direct treatment of injured workers, and that unnecessary or unsolicited costs do not detract from a worker's capped entitlement.

Consultations

- Time-based consultations for Occupational Therapy are for the direct treatment of injured workers and should be delivered in line with the [Clinical Framework for the Delivery of Health Services](#).
- Consultation times should not be extended to incorporate administrative items such as:
 - Room setup
 - Courtesy communications with third parties such as insurers and GPs
 - Reporting, other than the exceptions listed in the following section.

Reports

- The Occupational Therapy fee schedule does not make express provision for reports. However, where a formal report (written or verbal) relating to a consultation has been sought by a specialist, GP or insurer, it is permissible to incorporate this into a consultation fee provided the time with the injured worker and the time spent on reporting are clearly identified and itemised on the invoice.
- Insurers should not be charged for unsolicited reporting.

Treatment management plans

- [A Treatment Management Plan \(TMP\)](#) may be requested when the therapist is of the view that treatment will be required beyond ten consultations (or four weeks, whichever comes first). The TMP may be initiated by a therapist or requested by an approved insurer or self-insurer.
- The WorkCover WA fee schedule has been amended to incorporate a new code and fee for completing a treatment management plan. The fee is aligned to the rate for the physiotherapy treatment management plan.

Consumables

- It is WorkCover WA's expectation that injured workers are not subjected to excessive charges for consumables (in excess of market rates).
- Reasonable costs may be charged for medical requisites that are provided to injured workers for their exclusive use and are not reused on other patients (e.g. Theraputty, splints etc.).
- However, items or equipment used in the course of in-clinic treatment (e.g. paraffin wax, gels,) should not be charged for.