Veteran Health Checks for former Australian Defence Force (ADF) Personnel

Veteran Health Checks are comprehensive health checks designed specifically for veterans and are available for all former serving ADF members including members of permanent and reserve forces. The One-off Veteran Health Check is available for all former serving ADF members that can be used any time after transition. In addition, all former serving ADF members who transitioned from 1 July 2019 can gain access to a fully-funded comprehensive Annual Veteran Health Check every year for the first five years after-transition.

The aim of the Veteran Health Check is to help GPs identify ways to help optimise the physical and mental health and wellbeing of veterans in the years following transition from the ADF. Early intervention and appropriate referrals can help you enjoy better health outcomes and manage your health during transition to civilian life.

The Veteran Health Check should be completed by a qualified medical practitioner, however a suitably qualified health professional (e.g. practice nurse) may assist. DVA recommends that a 45 minute appointment is booked to conduct a Veteran Health Check.

To find out more, visit: <u>at-ease.dva.gov.au/get-support/veteran-health-check</u>

Annual Veteran Health Check

All former serving members of the ADF who transition from 1 July 2019 can gain access to a fully-funded comprehensive Annual Veteran Health Check from a GP every year for the first five years after transition. Veterans will need to use their <u>DVA Veteran Card</u> to access this.

A gap payment cannot be charged for services provided under a DVA item number. Only one of the DVA item numbers for the Annual Veteran Health Check can be used. Depending on the length of the consultation the DVA item numbers for this health check are MT701 (brief), MT703 (standard), MT705 (long) or MT707 (prolonged). Find out more on AT-Ease Professionals.

One-off Veteran Health Check

The One-off Veteran Health Check (formerly known as the ADF Post-Discharge GP Health Assessment) may be completed under MBS Items 701 (brief), 703 (standard), 705 (long) or 707 (prolonged), depending on the length of the consultation as determined by the complexity of the patient's presentation. Gap payments can be charged for One-off Veteran Health Check Medicare item numbers, although DVA encourages providers to bulk bill these consultations where possible.

To find out more about Veteran Health Checks, including eligibility and frequently asked questions, visit: at-ease.dva.gov.au/get-support/veteran-health-check or alternatively, email the Department of Veterans' Affairs at GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au.

It is also available on *Best Practice* and *Medical Director* software as a wizard (search for the ADF Post-discharge Health Assessment).

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For more detailed information about item descriptors and explanatory notes visit MBS Online.

For more general information about the MBS items visit the Department of Health website or phone the Department of Human Services (Medicare) provider enquiry line on 132 150 or patient enquiry line on 132 011.