

Sent: 07/02/2009 12:55 PM
To: <mhactreview@dhs.vic.gov.au>
Subject: Bulk Bill counselling/psychotherapy

I believe people who are recognised as needing ongoing psychotherapy/counselling to be BULK BILLED by Medicare for as long as the treatment is needed.

I need to see my psychiatrist but I can't currently AFFORD it , the Medicare rebate is not sufficient. I worry about being able to live day to day paying bills, rent, school fees, buying food, which adds to my depression/disorder.

If I was able to see my psychiatrist week to week without the worry of money I would be much further along the path to recovery.

In fact all counselling by psychologists/psychiatrist should be bulk billed. Easier access to therapy means not having to worry about paying the bill!

Christine Dean
LILYDALE