



Health entitlement

Health services for veterans with cancer

Overview

This Factsheet describes the health care services available to eligible veterans with cancer (malignant neoplasia). It provides information relating to:

- who is eligible;
- accessing cancer treatment under the DVA Gold and White Card; and
- how to notify DVA that you have cancer.

Who is eligible?

All Australian veterans are eligible for treatment for malignant cancer at DVA expense for service provided through DVA arrangements, where a request has been lodged and accepted by DVA for treatment of this condition.

This includes veterans who are eligible to receive treatment under the *Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986* (VEA), the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear (Treatment) Act 2006* (APTA), and former members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and current part-time reservists who have warlike or non-warlike service under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (MRCA) on or after 1 July 2004.

If you already hold a Repatriation Health Card – For All Conditions (Gold Card) you may obtain health care for your cancer at DVA's expense for services provided through DVA arrangements.

If you already hold a Repatriation Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White Card) and DVA accepts your claim for treatment of cancer, you may obtain health care for your cancer at DVA's expense in the same way that you obtain treatment for other accepted disabilities.

If you are not a Gold or White Card holder you can lodge a claim for treatment of malignant cancer with DVA. You will need to provide a diagnosis of your condition from a fully qualified medical practitioner. If your claim for treatment is accepted by DVA you will receive a White Card that will enable you to obtain health care at DVA's expense through DVA arrangements for treatment of your cancer only.

How is DVA notified that I have cancer?

DVA is notified when you or your doctor advise DVA in writing of your condition. Your doctor will need to provide a confirmed diagnosis or the histology report indicating malignancy. Alternatively, form *TL219.2 Application for Health Care in Respect of Cancer (Malignant Neoplasia)* is completed by you and your doctor and forwarded to DVA.

Health services for veterans with cancer, *continued*

When do I use my White Card?

When receiving treatment or other services for cancer, you should present your White Card to the provider of the service.

What health care services can I access?

Your White Card allows you access to any health care and associated services required for the treatment of your cancer.

More detailed information on these services is available through other Factsheets.

Generally the only medical services available are those listed on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS), but exceptions can be made in special circumstances.

Do I need to pay for treatment?

No, your health care provider will bill DVA directly for any treatment provided to you if the service is provided under DVA arrangements. This represents the full fee for the service provided.

If you are billed by your health care provider do not pay the account and contact DVA immediately.

You may be required to make a contribution towards the cost for pharmaceutical items, nursing home care and some dental services. There may be an extra fee, called the gap fee, charged for higher cost brands of some pharmaceutical items.

Other Factsheets

Other Factsheets related to this topic include:

About Veterans' Home Care: HCS01

Repatriation Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White) – For Australian Participants in the British Nuclear Test Program – Testing and Treatment for Malignant Cancers :HS01

Chiropractic Services: HSV13

Community Nursing Services: HSV16

Dental Services: HSV17

Diabetes Educators: HSV29

Dietetic Services: HSV21

Hearing Services: HSV22

Hospital Services: HSV76

Local Medical Officer Services: HSV80

Medical Expenses Privately Incurred: HSV64

Occupational Therapy Services: HSV23

Optical Services and Supplies: HSV18

Osteopathic Services: HSV14

Health services for veterans with cancer, *continued*

Overview of the Repatriation Transport Scheme: HSV02

Oxygen: HSV24

Physiotherapy: HSV19

Podiatry and Footwear: HSV20

Psychology Services: HSV25

Receiving Health Services While Overseas: HSV65

Veterans - Rehabilitation Appliances Program: HSV107

Repatriation Health Card – For Specific Conditions (White): HSV61

Social Work Services: HSV26

Specialist Services: HSV81

Speech Pathology Services: HSV27.

More information

All DVA Factsheets are available from DVA offices, and on the DVA website at:

www.dva.gov.au

You can phone DVA for the cost of a local call on 133 254 or 1800 555 254 for country callers. Use a normal landline phone if you can. Mobile phone calls may cost you more.

You can send an email to DVA at: generalenquiries@dva.gov.au.

You can get more help from any DVA office.