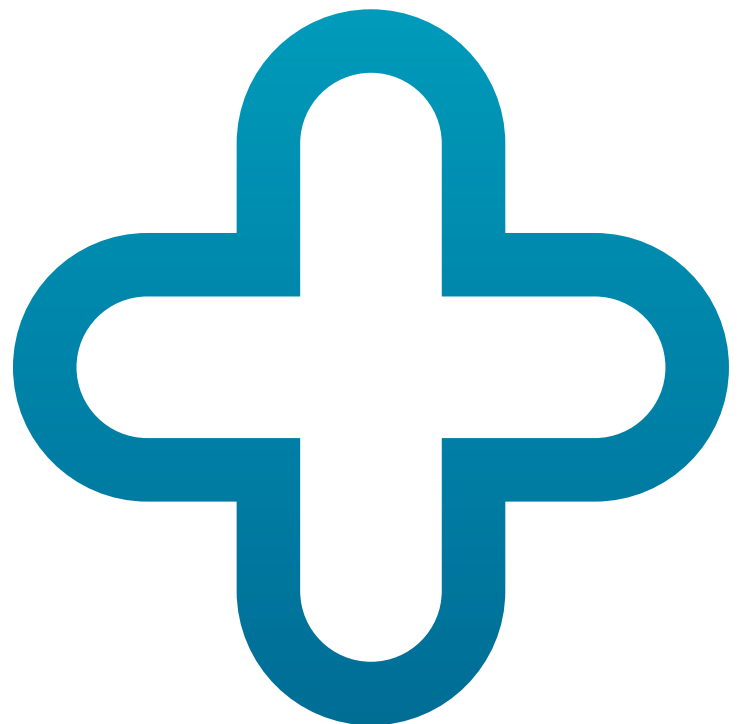


# Freedom Package

Key Facts Sheet



# Freedom Package

This is an affordable hospital and extras package which contributes towards expenses in a private and public hospital. Public hospital benefits apply to some services. This package includes cover for inpatient medical expenses and a range of popular extras services such as dental, physiotherapy and optical. Provides 60% back on extras services at any recognised health care provider Australia wide.

## What's covered in a participating private hospital?

For services not listed under 'restrictions' you are covered<sup>1</sup> at a participating private hospital for:

- ▶ Private hospital accommodation<sup>4</sup> in a shared or single room (where available)
- ▶ Medical gap
- ▶ Hip and knee replacements
- ▶ Joint investigations and reconstructions
- ▶ Cataract and eye lens procedures
- ▶ Shoulder & ankle arthroscopy
- ▶ Cardiac and related services
- ▶ Rehabilitation services
- ▶ Accidents sustained after joining
- ▶ Theatre fees
- ▶ Intensive and coronary care
- ▶ Same day treatment
- ▶ Surgically implanted prosthesis (Government Prosthesis group benefits)<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Australia wide ambulance cover for all clinically necessary, emergency ambulance services<sup>3</sup>
- ▶ Other inpatient treatment recognised by Medicare

## Services restricted to public hospital benefits

Default public hospital benefits apply<sup>1</sup> to the following services. Out of pocket expenses may be incurred if you use any of the following services in a private hospital:

- ▶ Renal dialysis for chronic renal failure
- ▶ Gastric banding and obesity related services
- ▶ Psychiatric services

## Excluded services

- ▶ Pregnancy and birth related services
- ▶ Assisted reproductive services (IVF)
- ▶ Cosmetic surgery (not medically necessary)

## Excess options

All Budget Direct Health Insurance covers have an excess. The most you'll pay each year for hospital visits is:

- ▶ \$500 for Singles
- ▶ \$1000 for Couples and Families

If one person from a Couple or Family cover goes to hospital, they will have a maximum excess of \$500. It's only when more than one person from the cover is hospitalised that the maximum excess is \$1000.

<sup>1</sup>Limited benefits may apply to cosmetic surgery and high cost drugs. Drugs purchased outside of hospital are not included. You may be subject to doctor's waiting lists in a public hospital. Default benefits are paid for all public hospital episodes.

<sup>2</sup>Benefits are no higher than the No-Gap Government prescribed benefit.

<sup>3</sup>We recommend checking with your state Ambulance authority to ensure you are correctly covered for all non-emergency ambulance transport within Australia.

<sup>4</sup>Fixed benefits are payable in non-participating private hospitals. Contact Budget Direct Health Insurance for further details.

## Medical Gap Cover

Budget Direct Health Insurance's medical gap cover is a billing system that provides higher benefits than the scheduled fee. This will reduce or potentially eliminate your out of pocket costs for doctors or specialists fees when treated in hospital.

You are eligible to receive the gap cover if your doctor is registered for gap cover with Budget Direct Health Insurance (we have over 14,000 doctors registered) and bills Budget Direct Health Insurance directly. We will pay an additional 20% on top of the schedule fee when we receive bills this way.

## What is the Schedule Fee?

The Federal Government has created a schedule of fees (Medicare Benefits Schedule) set for eligible services by doctors in a hospital or day surgery. Medicare pays 75% of this scheduled fee for inpatient medical treatments and Budget Direct Health Insurance pays the other 25% up to 100% of the Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS) fee.

For more information contact Budget Direct Health Insurance on **1300 665 623**.

## Waiting Periods

Waiting periods exist to protect members from claims made by those who join the fund or increase their level of cover because they have an ailment or illness that may require treatment. Waiting periods will apply to:

- ▶ New memberships (previously uninsured).
- ▶ Additions to a membership (unless the addition /s has already served all waiting periods with another fund).
- ▶ A new baby, adopted and permanent foster children will have no waiting periods providing they're added from birth, adoption or commencement of foster arrangement.
- ▶ Existing Budget Direct Health Insurance memberships, and transfers to Budget Direct Health Insurance from another fund where the level of cover and /or benefit entitlement is upgraded or increased and /or where the waiting periods have not been completed.

## Pre-existing Conditions and Waiting Periods

Waiting periods apply to new members who have a pre-existing condition. The waiting period also applies to existing members who have recently upgraded their level of hospital cover.

A pre-existing condition is one where signs or symptoms of your ailment, illness or condition, in the opinion of a medical practitioner appointed by Budget Direct Health Insurance (not your own doctor), existed at any time during the six months preceding the day on which you purchased your hospital cover /or benefit entitlement.

If the ailment, illness or condition is considered pre-existing:

- ▶ New members must wait 12 months for any hospital benefits.
- ▶ Members transferring /upgrading to a higher level of cover must wait 12 months to get the higher hospital benefits. Existing members with at least 12 months membership in total across their old and new cover are entitled to the lower benefits on their old cover.

## Extras Services

Budget Direct Health Insurance will pay 60% of what your treatment costs across the following services. You pay the other 40%.

Extras Services	Waiting Periods	Yearly limit (maximum you can claim per person unless otherwise stated)
General & Preventative Dental	2 Months	\$1000
Major Dental (including dentures)	12 Months	\$1000
Orthodontics	Not Covered	Not Applicable
Optical	6 Months	\$260
Physiotherapy / Exercise Physiology/ Occupational Therapy	2 Months	\$500
Chiropractic / Osteopathy	2 Months	\$350 per person \$500 per policy
Antenatal / Postnatal	Not Covered	Not Applicable
Natural Therapies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Acupuncture</li> <li>▶ Dietetics</li> <li>▶ Homeopathy</li> <li>▶ Hydrotherapy</li> <li>▶ Myotherapy</li> <li>▶ Naturopathy</li> <li>▶ Remedial Massage</li> </ul>	2 Months	\$300
Pharmacy & Travel Vaccinations (S4 & S8 medications only)	2 Months	\$350 A limit of \$40 per item applies after deduction of PBS copayment
Psychology	2 Months	\$200
Podiatry	2 Months	\$200
Speech Therapy	Not Covered	Not Applicable
Eye Therapy	Not Covered	Not Applicable
Home Nursing	2 Months	\$200
Health Aids and Appliances including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Asthma Pump</li> <li>▶ Blood Glucose Monitor</li> <li>▶ Blood Pressure Monitor</li> <li>▶ Sleep Apnoea Monitor</li> <li>▶ Hearing Aids</li> <li>▶ Pressure Garments</li> <li>▶ Orthopaedic Appliance</li> <li>▶ Orthotic Appliance (foot)</li> <li>▶ TENS Machine</li> </ul>	12 Months	\$400  \$100 sublimit applies to equipment hire, repair and maintenance  A Doctors letter of recommendation is required to claim health aids and appliances.

Weight Management Programs <sup>4</sup> A Doctors letter of recommendation is required to claim.	2 Months	\$100
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Preventative Health Benefits	Service Limit	Yearly limit (maximum you can claims per person unless otherwise stated)
Approved Quit Smoking Programs	1 per year	100% of cost up to \$150 per person
Nicotine Replacement Patches	1 X 12 week course of patches per year	
Melanoma Surveillance Photography	1 per year	
Bowel Cancer Risk Identification kits (FIT Kits)	1 every 2 years	

<sup>4</sup>Weight loss provider must be a member of the Weight Management Council of Australia and agree to abide by the Weight Management Code of Practice including Weight Watchers Australia, Jenny Craig Weight Loss Centres Pty Ltd, Fernwood & Simplicity Weight Loss. Benefits are only payable for weight loss program fees and not meals or exercise components.

## Find out more

If you're planning treatment or a hospital admission, please contact us to discuss your options to ensure you're covered and have served all waiting periods.

For further information please call **1300 665 623** or visit [health.budgetdirect.com.au](http://health.budgetdirect.com.au)