

# GPS<sup>2</sup>

General Practitioner's Specialist Service  
Navigating Treatment Pathways



## Information For General Practitioners

**GPS<sup>2</sup>** is a clinical support service aimed at providing General Practitioners (GPs) and workers (the patient) prompt guidance and support in the areas of diagnosis, best practice treatment, current work capacity and overall prognosis. This Specialist based advisory service is optional and at no cost to the patient or the GP.

### MedHealth And The GPS<sup>2</sup> Service

Since 1986 MedHealth has developed vast expertise in the provision of specialist examination and opinion services with a large network of contracted medical specialists covering over 30 specialties.

MedHealth has established the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service by engaging highly reputable and experienced Specialists to support treating GPs and injured workers to make confident healthcare and treatment planning decisions.

**GPS<sup>2</sup>** is a clinical advisory and guidance service not a treatment service. The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is confidential, patient-centred and outcome focused.

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist's role is to provide an assessment and advisory service. It therefore does not replace the relationship you have with your patient or any other treating Specialist and you remain the primary care giver.

### The Benefits

You can seek a **GPS<sup>2</sup>** specialist opinion at any stage of your patient's injury journey.

**GPS<sup>2</sup>** can help by advising on any of the following and more:

- > A definitive diagnosis.
- > Treatment options and recommendations for the best treatment pathway.
- > When specialist intervention is required.
- > Whether surgery is necessary and appropriate.
- > Why symptoms may not be improving or why recovery is not proceeding as expected.
- > When it is safe for the patient to return to work and in what way.
- > Any other medical questions.

### GPS<sup>2</sup> Specialists

**GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialists are highly regarded experts in their fields of expertise. They are selected by our Consultant Recruitment Services through a comprehensive process.

The Specialists providing this service are:

- > Accessible in a timely manner
- > Clinically trusted and respected
- > Good at collaborating with treating doctors.

A Specialist Directory will be available on request and will profile each **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist. The Directory will include the following range of specialties:

- > Physicians (General, Pain, Occupational)
- > Surgeons (Orthopaedic, General)
- > Psychiatrists

We will continue to add further specialties to this Directory as our service evolves.

## How Does It Work?

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist will review the available clinical records, imaging and test results (where applicable), examine the patient, liaise with you by telephone and then provide you a written consultation summary (1-2 pages) confirming their advice and recommendations. The consultation summary will advise diagnosis, treatment recommendations, current work capacity and prognosis. It will also address any other medical questions you may have.

You can also contact the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist for a medical file review, further advice in relation to your patient, or refer your patient for reassessment as required.

In the majority of instances we will be able to offer your patient an appointment within 10 business days of the referral. A consultation summary will be provided to you within 5 business days of the appointment.

Please Note: You can charge for the time taken in your telephone conversation with the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist using item number WMG24 in accordance with the SA Government gazetted fee schedule.

Where possible, we can also offer a telemedicine service to provide patients with easier access to **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialists. Please contact us if you would like more information about this.

## Eligibility

This service is for workers who have an accepted or undetermined work injury claim under the SA Return to Work scheme. If the worker is employed by a self insured employer, then we will seek prior approval for the service from them for payment.

## Who Makes The Referral?

A referral to the service can be made by you as the GP in conjunction with your patient. The Insurer can only make a referral in collaboration and agreement with yourself and your patient.

## Is It Voluntary?

The decision to access, participate or utilise the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is up to you and your patient.

If your patient chooses not to participate or chooses to withdraw at any time it will not affect their work injury claim entitlements. There is also no 'compliance pressure' to follow the advice of the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist.

## The Difference

As a medical advisory service, **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialists are not vested in the provision of treatment services, nor are they influenced or involved in a medico-legal process.

This service (where pre-approved) can also provide patients with multiple injuries or complex health problems, the ability to be assessed by more than one Specialist (within the relevant fields of expertise). This can help facilitate an integrated and holistic approach to the provision of best care management of the patient.

**Please Note:** This is not a medico-legal service.

## The New Return to Work scheme

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is a type of second opinion medicine service and can be paid for under the Return to Work scheme. The new Return to Work scheme is about positive collaboration, with everyone working together to achieve the best health outcomes for the worker.

## To Find Out More

If you want to know more about **GPS<sup>2</sup>** or wish to make a referral, please contact:

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**A copy of the Referral Form can be obtained by calling us on the above telephone numbers.**