



Delivering a Healthy WA



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

North Metropolitan Health Service

Direct Billing Medicare in the Swan Kalamunda Eveline Centre Medical Outpatient Clinic: Midland Physician Service

Improving our services to you

Did you know that if you have a Medicare card and are coming to our hospital as a medical outpatient, you can choose to be seen as a privately referred patient and not have any out-of-pocket expenses?

Participating specialists, working in a private capacity, provide their patients with access to a wide range of professional services in the hospital's outpatient department. The participating specialists' direct-bill which means they accept the relevant Medicare benefit as full payment for the service provided to you.

Choosing to be treated as a privately referred patient means that you will have a named referral to a participating specialist, most likely one recommended by your GP. Without a named referral, you don't have a choice of specialist and you'll be seen by one or more medical practitioners (including registrars) employed by the hospital.

If you choose to use this service you'll attend the outpatient clinic following a referral letter from your GP or other specialist, to one of the participating specialists indicating your choice to use this service. You will be asked to confirm you're electing to be treated as a privately referred patient when you attend your appointment and agree to your Medicare card being used for the professional services provided. Medicare can then be bulk-billed for the service and there is no out-of-pocket cost to you.

Choosing to be treated as a private outpatient is voluntary. There will be no difference to the service you receive whether or not you choose to participate in the scheme. All patients are seen in order of their clinical need, with the sickest patients always having priority.

How does it work if you do agree to participate?

- When you come to the hospital following referral from your GP or specialist you choose to be treated as a privately referred outpatient.
- You then provide your Medicare card/number and sign the Medicare form following your specialist appointment.

Thank you for helping us to improve outpatient services.

