

## Remuneration Rates For Sessional Visiting Medical Officers

**Summary** The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to set out the remuneration rates for Sessional Visiting Medical Officers, effective from 1 July 2018.

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**Distributed to** Divisions of General Practice, Ministry of Health, Public Health System

**Audience** Administration, Clinical

## REMUNERATION RATES FOR SESSIONAL VISITING MEDICAL OFFICERS

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to set out the remuneration rates for Sessional Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs), effective 1 July 2018.

### KEY INFORMATION

The revised remuneration rates set out in this Information Bulletin are effective from 1 July 2018 until further notice. Public Health Organisations are required to remunerate Visiting Medical Officers in accordance with these rates, unless approval to provide non-standard rates and conditions have been provided by the NSW Ministry of Health.

Note that this Information Bulletin does **NOT** apply to Visiting Medical Officers who are:

- a) Remunerated under the arrangements set by the Rural Doctors' Settlement Package
- b) Appointed as a pathologist, or
- c) Appointed as a radiologist where there has not been agreement for standard sessional remuneration to apply.

Public Health Organisations must ensure:

- That the services to be provided under VMO service contracts are provided personally by the contracted VMO and are not sub-contracted out for performance by another practitioner; and
- Split contracts in respect of services to be provided at the one facility are only offered in circumstances outlined in Policy Directive PD2016\_052 Visiting Practitioner Appointments in the NSW Public Health System.

Chief Executives are accountable for ensuring that only the remuneration authorised in the Information Bulletin, or otherwise specifically approved by the NSW Ministry of Health, is paid to Visiting Medical Officers.

Any enquires concerning this Information Bulletin should be directed to the Human Resource or Medical Administration personnel in the relevant public health organisation. Only Human Resource or Medical Administration personnel are to directly contact the NSW Ministry of Health.

### ATTACHMENT

1. Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration

## Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration

### 1. Sessional Visiting Medical Officer Remuneration Rates

- 1.1 The ordinary hourly rates and on call rates which public health organisations are authorised to pay to sessional Visiting Medical Officers increased by 2.5% with effect from 1 July 2018. Background practice costs are also being increased by 2.5%.
- 1.2 Where a sessional Visiting Medical Officer is called back to duty, public health organisations are authorised to pay additional remuneration as follows:
- (a) For services provided during a call-back within the hours of 8.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday inclusive (other than on a public holiday) - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 10%.
  - (b) For services provided during a call-back outside the hours of 8.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday inclusive - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 25%.
  - (c) For services provided during a call-back on a public holiday - at the Visiting Medical Officer's ordinary hourly rate of remuneration plus a loading of 50%.
- 1.3 A sessional Visiting Medical Officer shall be paid the following hourly rate of remuneration for each ordinary hour (and on a proportionate basis to the nearest quarter hour) specified in a sessional contract:

Classification	Rate per hour
a) General Practitioner	
i. with less than 5 years' experience	\$150.40
ii. with at least 5 years' experience and/or who has been admitted to Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and/or Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine	\$193.20
b) Specialist	\$218.75
c) Senior Specialist	\$234.75

## BACKGROUND PRACTICE COSTS

Classification	Rate per hour
a) Anaesthetist, Physician and General Practitioner	\$27.85
b) Surgeon	\$46.55

and on a proportionate basis to the nearest quarter hour.

## ON-CALL

A sessional Visiting Medical Officer shall be paid an amount as shown below for each hour (or part thereof) the officer is rostered to be on-call. This amount remains payable to a Visiting Medical Officer during periods spent travelling or rendering services pursuant to a call-back.

Rate per hour
\$13.80

## 2. Regional Visiting Medical Officers

- 2.1 **Regional Visiting Medical Officer** means a Visiting Medical Officer who is appointed:
- (a) for a continuous period of at least 12 months under a service contract in respect of one or more of the regional hospitals listed below; and
  - (b) under a service contract with terms and conditions that are in accordance with the standard arrangements approved by the Ministry of Health.
- 2.2 The authorised fee payable to a sessional regional Visiting Medical Officer:
- (a) who provides a call-back service at a regional hospital listed below; and
  - (b) whose usual place of residence is within a 50 kilometre radius of the regional hospital where the call-back service is provided, is a further 10% loading on the amount that would otherwise have been payable (as provided for at paragraph 1.2) in respect of that occasion of service.

## 3. Funding

Budget supplementation for the revised fees will be provided by the Ministry based on existing public health organisation budgets for Visiting Medical Officers.

## 4. Regional Hospitals

Albury Base Hospital  
Armidale Hospital  
Bathurst Base Hospital  
Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital  
Broken Hill Health Service  
Coffs Harbour Base Hospital  
Dubbo Base Hospital  
Goulburn Base Hospital  
Grafton Base Hospital

Griffith Base Hospital  
Kempsey District Hospital  
Lismore Base Hospital  
Maitland Hospital  
Manning Base Hospital  
Murwillumbah Hospital  
Orange Base Hospital  
Port Macquarie Base Hospital  
Queanbeyan District Hospital  
South East Regional Hospital  
Shoalhaven Hospital  
Tamworth Base Hospital  
Tweed Heads District Hospital  
Wagga Wagga Base Hospital