March 2018

Dear Pods,

Thanks for attending the initial forum in February on Aged Care and Medicare/EPC billing. The Chronic Disease Management EPC podiatry funding is vital to our profession and we need to protect it and ensure that the patients who need it are able to continue accessing it. Currently this funding source is being abused and Podiatry WA would like to address the matter on behalf of its members. Please find a summary of the first forum attached.

The next forum is a follow up and as requested you are asked to read the following short documents (about 6 pages in total):

1. **CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT – INDIVIDUAL ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER INFORMATION** [**http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/22F660E959ABF390CA257BF0001F3CF3/$File/Fact\_Sheet\_CDM\_Individual\_Allied\_Health\_Services\_Provider\_Info\_Feb\_14.pdf**](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/22F660E959ABF390CA257BF0001F3CF3/$File/Fact_Sheet_CDM_Individual_Allied_Health_Services_Provider_Info_Feb_14.pdf)
2. **CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT – INDIVIDUAL ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES RACF**

[**http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/E6A812DC61EBD3D2CA257BF0001CABF6/$File/Chronic%20Disease%20Management%20-%206%20June%202017.pdf**](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/E6A812DC61EBD3D2CA257BF0001CABF6/$File/Chronic%20Disease%20Management%20-%206%20June%202017.pdf)

1. **REMOVAL OF LOW CARE – HIGH CARE DISTINCTION IN PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FROM 1 JULY 2014**

[**https://agedcare.health.gov.au/sites/g/files/net1426/f/documents/07\_2014/16\_-removal-high-care.pdf**](https://agedcare.health.gov.au/sites/g/files/net1426/f/documents/07_2014/16_-removal-high-care.pdf)

The larger documents will be studied by volunteers who have offered to do the hard slog! So please do your reading and consider the following questions while you read:

Who is liable to Medicare for billing an INELIGIBLE resident through Medicare item 10962 in a residential aged care facility?

What are the criteria when deciding whether a resident is eligible for treatment under Medicare item 10962 in a residential aged care facility?

Are the billing practices you have witnessed or undertaken legal?

Are podiatrists going to be penalised if so?

At the next forum we need to consider the following:

Does Podiatry WA issue a position statement along the lines of

“Podiatry WA does not support the use of Medicare billing in residential aged care facilities”

Or “Podiatry WA supports increased scrutiny of the use of Medicare billing in residential aged care facilities”

Theresa

Podiatry WA