

Factsheet for Department of Health Website

GP Health Assessment for Former Australian Defence Force (ADF) Personnel

The GP Health Assessment for former ADF personnel may be completed under MBS Items **701 (brief)**, **703 (standard)**, **705 (long)** or **707 (prolonged)**, depending on the length of the consultation as determined by the complexity of the patient's presentation.

The aim of this health assessment is to help medical practitioners identify and diagnose the early signs of physical and/or mental health problems among former serving ADF members.

The health assessment is available to all former ADF members, including former serving members of permanent and reserve forces. It can be performed at any point after the patient's discharge from the ADF.

Components of This Health Assessment

This GP Health Assessment is designed to assess the current physical and mental wellbeing of former ADF members. It must involve taking the patient's history, including the patient's:

- service with the ADF including service type, years of service, field of work, number of deployments and reason for discharge;
- social history, including relationship status, number of children (if any) and current occupation; and
- current medical conditions.

The assessment must also cover, if applicable:

- hearing loss or tinnitus;
- use of medication, including medication prescribed by another doctor and medication obtained without a prescription;
- smoking;
- alcohol use;
- substance use;
- level of physical activity;
- bodily pain;
- difficulty getting to sleep or staying asleep;
- psychological distress;
- posttraumatic stress disorder;
- risk of harm to self or others;
- anger problems;
- sexual health;
- measuring the patient's height;
- weighing the patient and ascertaining whether their weight has changed in the last 12 months;
- measuring waist circumference; and
- taking blood pressure.

Medical practitioners can use the 'ADF Post-discharge GP Health Assessment Tool' as a guide for this assessment. This assessment tool can be viewed on the Department of Veterans' Affairs' [At Ease Professionals](#) website.

Other assessment tools mentioned in the Department of Veteran's Affairs [Mental Health Advice Book](#) may be relevant and can also be viewed on the At Ease portal.

Restrictions on providing the health assessment

This health assessment may only be claimed once by an eligible patient.

The health assessment must not be performed in conjunction with a separate consultation in relation to the patient unless the consultation is clinically necessary.

Further information

For more detailed information about item descriptors and explanatory notes visit [MBS Online](#).

To access mental health resources for the effective assessment and treatment of veterans and ex-serving members of the ADF please visit DVA's [At Ease Professional](#) website.

For more general information about the MBS items visit the Department of Health website or phone the Department of Human Services (Medicare) provider enquiry line on 132 150 or patient enquiry line on 132 011.