



2022 VMO Contract

Claims

1. Remuneration FFS and Sessional

A. An increase in indexation of 6.5% for the Fee for Service ('FFS') component of contracts and a 6.5% increase in the sessional rate on and from the day of the arbitrator's decision.

This increase reflects the difference between the ACT annual CPI as at 1 July 2022 and the 1.5% increase in VMO rates paid from 1 July 2022.

B. A further increase of 4% from 1 July 2023 and thereafter annually in the VMO FFS and sessional rates.

2. Choice of FFS or Sessional or Combined FFS and Sessional Arrangement

Prior to the commencement of a first or subsequent contract, the VMO may choose either a FFS or sessional or combined FFS and Sessional arrangement.

3. Daily Rates for Locum

Daily rates may only be utilized such that the hourly rate of pay reflected in the Daily Rate is not less than the sessional hourly rate.

4. Contract Duration

A VMO Contract will 36 months in duration unless otherwise agreed between Canberra Health Services (CHS) or Calvary Public Hospital Bruce (CPHB) and the VMO.

5. Workload

A VMO contract will include a fixed workload provision for the life of the contract. A VMO's workload may only be varied by agreement.

6. Consultation

If CHS or CPHB propose to replace a VMO appointment with a staff specialist appointment or to create a new staff specialist position, CHS/CPH should:

- Advise AMA ACT and the ACT VMOA of their proposal; and
- Following a request, provide AMA ACT and VMOA access to the business case for the proposed course of action.

7. Submission of Credentialling Documents and Privacy

For the purposes of credentialling, a VMO may choose to provide the relevant documentation to CHS or CBPH by hand, by registered mail or by fax.

8. Cross-Border Indemnity

The Conditions of Liability Cover be varied so as to extend civil liability cover to VMOs in relation to any claim arising from the provision of health care to patients, delivered as a part of their VMO contract obligations to participate in on-call services, including in relation to telephone or other remote advice relating to patients located outside the geographical limits of the ACT.

9. Air Travel Policy

While peripherally relevant to the negotiations another matter has been brought to our attention relating to the lack of flexibility for those VMOs who require travel arrangement to and from Canberra to carry out their duties. In particular, the requirement to book 'best fare of the day' and the often-associated inconvenience and delay for the practitioner and the potential loss of time and cost for CHS/CBPH.

Consequently, for those small number of VMOs affected by this policy, we propose a 'best value for the service,' policy that accounts for such things as boarding times, reliability, and frequency of services.

10. Additional Claims

Such additional claims as AMA ACT consider reasonable in the circumstances.

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