

Victoria's Single Employer Model trial

Information about the Single Employer Model-Specific Section 19(2) exemption

What is the Section 19(2) exemption

- A Direction granted by the Minister or a delegate of a Minister under subsection 19(2) of the HI Act will enable patients to claim Medicare benefits if a participating rural generalist trainee has provided them a professional service (as defined under subsection 3(1) of the HI Act). The participating rural general practice or rural generalist trainee must be centrally employed, with a salary, by the trial sites for appropriate primary care attendance within approved primary care Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2-7 locations.
- The Direction lists the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) items which will be payable for the professional services and includes all non-referred clinical attendance and procedural skills, performed by rural general practice or rural generalist trainees, within an approved primary care setting.
- The SEM-specific direction applies to the SEM Registrar only. The direction does not apply to anyone other than the SEM registrar - all other currently arrangements will apply.
- The SEM-specific Section 19(2) does not require bulk billing. – the practice can change out of pocket for the SEM Registrar's activities.
- All billings are retained by the practice – the SEM Registrar cannot retain a % of the billings.

Eligibility

- The Commonwealth requires the Modified Monash Model (MMM) location, practice name, legal entity name and street address for all participating practices.
- For practices that operate as subsidiaries under a head company and are therefore operating under a single ABN, if the practices can be legally identified with very different addresses, this is sufficient and those practices can be treated as different practices under the Directions.
- It must be ensured that there are no overlaps between the practices listed under the SEM s19(2) Directions and practices listed under the UCC s19(2) Directions. For sites that are a general practice during business hours and then become an UCC during after hours, these two sites must be legally differentiated in order to be listed on both the SEM and UCC Directions. That is, they must have different ABNs and legal entity names, although they may share the same or similar addresses.
- The governance and corresponding subsection 19(2) exemption/s for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services is through the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHS) Direction under subsection 19(2).

MPN applications and SEM flag

- Registrars are responsible for providing the MPN application forms to the GP Colleges. The Colleges will then forward the application to Services Australia to issue an MPN. This process does not differ to non-SEM MPN application processes.