

Government Rebate

for your patients
undergoing fertility
investigation



The NSW State government has committed to providing a rebate of \$500 for out of pocket expenses related to pre-IVF fertility testing.

The initiative is designed to assist in reducing cost of living pressures faced by people with fertility issues who access treatment. Before IVF treatment begins, women may pay hundreds of dollars in out of pocket expenses associated with pre testing. The rebate will reach a large number of people who access fertility testing.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM?

Women and men who are current residents of NSW are eligible for the rebate if they have fertility issues and incur out of pocket expenses related to fertility testing after 30 September 2019.

Fertility testing includes tests for women and men, however only women can lodge a claim through Service NSW for the rebate.

CAN THE REBATE BE CLAIMED MORE THAN ONCE?

No. A woman can only receive the rebate once.

WHAT IS A FERTILITY ISSUE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REBATE?

A fertility issue is defined as a woman under 35 years of age who has not conceived in 12 months or longer, or a woman over 35 years who has not conceived in 6 months or longer. Both male infertility and female infertility are defined by the failure to conceive after regular unprotected intercourse.

WHAT OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?

To be eligible for the rebate, the patient must have incurred out-of-pocket expenses after 30 September 2019 for one or more of the following:

- AMH
- Pelvic Ultrasound
- Ovulation Test
- Semen analysis
- Specialist consultation fees

WHO CAN ORDER FERTILITY TESTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REBATE?

Both General Practitioners and Specialists can order fertility tests. GP's are often the first point of call for families commencing their fertility journey and order initial fertility tests.

WHO CAN CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY FOR THE REBATE?

The following Specialists can confirm eligibility for the rebate:

- Specialist Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- Specialists in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility
- Specialist Urologists
- Specialist Endocrinologists

While GP's can order fertility tests, only Specialists can confirm eligibility for the rebate as they are best placed to confirm that your patient has a fertility issue.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO TELL YOUR PATIENTS ABOUT THEIR CONSENT TO SHARE INFORMATION?

You should inform patients that their information, provided when claiming the rebate will be shared with NSW Health & Service NSW and highlight the relevant privacy statement, including the link. You should also inform patients you will keep a copy of the form with their patient's records.

HOW CAN YOU CONFIRM YOUR PATIENT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR THE REBATE?

A specialist must complete the Pre-IVF Fertility Testing Rebate form and acknowledge;

1. Your patient has fertility issues
2. Your patient has incurred an out-of-pocket expense for fertility testing that occurred after 30 September 2019.
3. You have advised your patient how to claim the rebate through Service NSW, including the need to upload one fertility testing receipt.
4. You have highlighted the privacy statement and link and asked your patient/s to sign the form.
5. You have retained a copy of the completed form with your patient's records.

HOW CAN PATIENTS CLAIM THE REBATE?

Women and men are eligible for the rebate if they have a fertility issue and incur out-of-pocket expenses, however only women can lodge a claim through Service NSW for the rebate. The rebate can be claimed through Service NSW by accessing the Service NSW website or App. The applicant will be asked to:

- Log in or create a MyService account
- Upload the signed Pre-IVF Fertility Testing Rebate form and one receipt for fertility testing
- Provide their Medicare number. If your patient does not have a current Medicare card she will need to email affordableIVF@health.nsw.gov.au

The \$500 will be paid to their nominated bank account within 5 business days of lodging the rebate application.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Email: affordableIVF@health.nsw.gov.au | **Visit:** www.virtusdiagnostics.com.au | **Phone:** 1800 090 325

WHEN DOES THE REBATE COMMENCE?

The launch of the rebate by Service NSW is on 15 January 2020.

Specialists however can approve eligibility for the rebate for fertility tests occurring after 30th September 2019.

WHAT IF MY PATIENTS LOSES THEIR RECEIPT/S RELATED TO FERTILITY TESTING?

Patient should request a duplicate receipt from the provider of their test or use the receipt from your consultation (if there was an out-of-pocket charge)

HOW WILL RECORDS AND PATIENT INFORMATION BE HANDLED?

The NSW Government will manage rebate records, consisting of the Pre-IVF Fertility Testing Rebate forms and related attachments, in accordance with the NSW privacy laws, including the Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002.

A women who claims the rebate may also use or disclose information about the services received by a second person for the purpose of making a claim for the rebate.

More information on how personal information relating to the rebate is managed can be found at www.health.nsw.gov.au/patients/privacy/pages/privacy-leaflet-for-patients.aspx

HOW WILL NSW HEALTH CONDUCT PERIODIC AUDITS?

NSW Health will conduct periodic audits to monitor the rebate to determine if patients have complied with policy.