



## Supporting Veteran Wellbeing Through Early Access to Medical Treatment

This initiative extends the Provisional Access to Medical Treatment (PAMT) program for a further two years to 30 June 2024. PAMT provides access to DVA funded health treatment for 20 common service-related conditions while the veteran's claim for these conditions is being processed.

Funding for the PAMT program is due to terminate on 30 June 2022. This measure extends eligibility to enter the program for two years until 30 June 2024 with treatment able to continue until 31 December 2024.

### Why is this important?

The PAMT program provides access to medical treatment for 20 commonly claimed conditions under the *Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (Defence-Related Claims) Act 1988* (DRCA) and *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (MRCA) while veterans are waiting for their claims to be processed.

This ensures that veterans have timely access to necessary treatment and are not disadvantaged while their claims are being processed. PAMT reduces the financial impact some veterans encounter in seeking health treatment prior to the finalisation of their claim. This can be a barrier to accessing treatment, particularly for transitioning Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who have had their health care provided by Defence throughout their military careers.

Providing veterans with earlier access to funded treatment that promotes recovery and prevents conditions from worsening has the added benefit of reducing the long-term costs to the Australian health system.

### Who will benefit?

Former serving ADF members who lodge liability claims for the 20 most commonly claimed conditions under the DRCA and the MRCA will benefit under the program.

### Date of effect?

1 July 2022.

### How much will this cost?

\$33.6 million over two years.

