



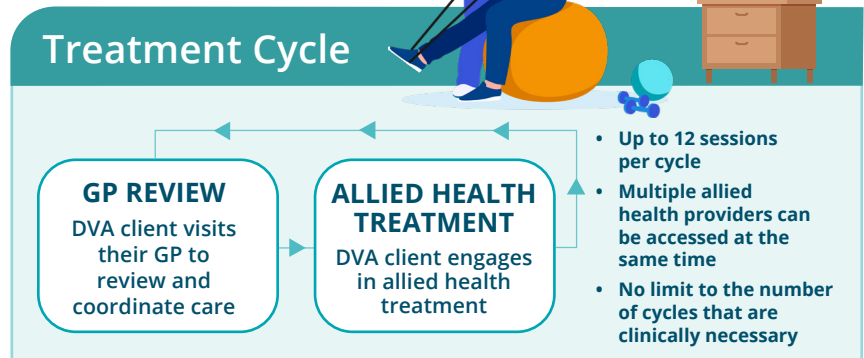
# Allied Health Treatment Cycle Quick Guide

**Remember to ask your client if:**  
They have served in the ADF, they are a family member of someone who has served and/or if they have a Veteran Health Card.

## What is the Allied Health Treatment Cycle?

The treatment cycle supports eligible clients to access allied health treatment while ensuring communication between members of the treating team.

[dva.gov.au/ahtc](http://dva.gov.au/ahtc)



Topic	Key Information
<b>What does the treatment cycle mean for eligible DVA clients?</b>	<p>The treatment cycle was designed to promote a collaborative approach to veteran care. It encourages regular communication between DVA clients, general practitioners and allied health professionals.</p> <p>The client's usual treating GP is responsible for coordinating necessary treatment needs. All allied health services, except dental and optical require a referral. Under treatment cycle arrangements, referrals to allied health services are valid for up to 12 sessions of treatment or 1 year, whichever ends first.</p> <p>Eligible clients can access multiple allied health providers using the treatment cycle at the same time.</p> <p><a href="http://dva.gov.au/tc-information-ah-providers">dva.gov.au/tc-information-ah-providers</a></p>
<b>Who is eligible?</b>	<p>Gold Card holders are entitled to clinically necessary treatment for all medical conditions in Australia.</p> <p>White Card holders are entitled to clinical necessary treatment for health conditions related to their service, known as 'accepted conditions'.</p> <p>Accepted Conditions for Veteran White Card holders can be checked by the client on their MyService account.</p> <p><a href="http://dva.gov.au/about/contact-us">dva.gov.au/about/contact-us</a></p>
<b>Who can provide an initial referral for Allied Health?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Practitioners (GPs) and other medical specialists</li><li>• Hospital based health professional as part of a hospital discharge</li></ul> <p>Following the initial referral the usual treating GP is required to make any future referrals.</p>
<b>How can a referral be made?</b>	<p>Referrals can be made following consultation via:</p> <p>The D904 form <a href="http://dva.gov.au/d904referral-voucher">dva.gov.au/d904referral-voucher</a> OR</p> <p>Referral letter on letterhead that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Date of referral, name and DVA file number</li><li>2. Treatment entitlement</li><li>3. Confirmation that the referrer is the usual GP</li><li>4. Name of the Residential Aged Care Facility (if relevant)</li><li>5. Clinical details</li><li>6. Description of the condition(s) to be treated or reason(s) for referral</li><li>7. Other treating health care providers (if relevant)</li></ol> <p>A new referral may be required if there has been a considerable break between treatments (e.g. more than 3 months)</p>

Topic	Key Information
<b>What is required?</b>	<p>Each treatment cycle must start with an initial in person allied health consultation* and include a Patient Care Plan (PCP) for the entitled client. This plan needs to be updated by the treating allied health clinician to reflect the treatment plan and any changes in circumstances. The client, GP or DVA can request a copy of this plan.</p> <p>The allied health provider must provide an end of cycle report to the client's usual GP/practice. This may occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at the end of treatment,</li> <li>• after eight sessions where more treatment is necessary,</li> <li>• after 12 sessions, or</li> <li>• after one year (if the 12 sessions have not been reached).</li> </ul> <p>Best practice care supports communication to the GP if the client does not attend or finishes treatment early.</p> <p>The GP and eligible client review the report and decide if it is clinically necessary for further treatment or consider other treatment options. A new referral will be required.</p> <p><b>End of Cycle Report and Patient Care Plan DVA templates for allied health providers:</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle-resources">dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle-resources</a></p>
<b>Are there any exceptions?</b>	<p>The following do not require a referral under the treatment cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dental services</li> <li>• optical services</li> <li>• hearing services</li> <li>• counselling services with Open Arms – Veterans &amp; Families Counselling</li> <li>• Recognised therapies that have DVA set treatment limits including: Trauma focused therapy, Lymphoedema Treatment, Lee Silverman Voice Therapy, Multidisciplinary case conference</li> </ul> <p>TPI Veterans (Totally and Permanently Incapacitated) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise physiology</li> <li>• Physiotherapy</li> </ul> <p>You can identify a TPI Veteran Gold Card by the letters TPI printed on the front of the card.</p> <p><b>Dental services</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/notes-for-dental-providers">dva.gov.au/notes-for-dental-providers</a></p> <p><b>Optical services</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/optical-dispensers">dva.gov.au/optical-dispensers</a></p> <p><b>Hearing services</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/hearing-services">dva.gov.au/hearing-services</a></p> <p><b>Open Arms</b>  <a href="https://openarms.gov.au/referring-client-open-arms">openarms.gov.au/referring-client-open-arms</a></p> <p><b>TPI information</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle-publications-tpiclients">dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle-publications-tpiclients</a></p>
<b>Tailored Referral Arrangements</b>	<p>The treatment cycle is considered best practice for quality of care. In rare and exceptional cases, entitled clients may benefit from a tailored referral arrangement lasting 3, 6 or 12 months.</p> <p>This can be done by the usual treating GP completing an assessment using the D9549 - At Risk Assessment Form  <a href="#">At Risk Client Assessment Form for use by GPs</a></p> <p><b>At Risk Client Framework:</b>  <a href="https://dva.gov.au/allied-health-treatment-cycle">dva.gov.au/allied-health-treatment-cycle</a></p>

\*if an in-person consultation is impossible to achieve due to client circumstances AND it is clinically appropriate to undertake the assessment via telehealth, the provider can request prior approval.

## For further information

**Fees & guidelines for allied health providers:**  
[dva.gov.au/provider-notes](https://dva.gov.au/provider-notes)

**DVA information for providers:**  
[dva.gov.au/get-support/providers](https://dva.gov.au/get-support/providers)



The VETS HeLP platform provides CPD accredited resources for health professionals.