The treatment cycle is a new way to manage your allied health treatments and improve the quality of your care. It puts you at the centre of care, with your GP as your care coordinator. By improving communication and coordination between you, your GP and your allied health providers, the treatment cycle means that everyone can work together to make sure you get the best treatment for your needs.

For more details, including which allied health professions are covered under the treatment cycle, see www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle

The treatment cycle does not apply to physiotherapy or exercise physiology for TPI clients. If you use physiotherapy or exercise physiology, this means:

- you need an annual or indefinite referral for physiotherapy or exercise physiology
- you can have as many sessions as are clinically necessary
- your physiotherapist or exercise physiologist does not need to send a report to your GP after 12 sessions.

Your exercise physiology and physiotherapy treatment will continue to be goals focused and help you develop effective self-management strategies.
How does it work?

- Your GP can refer you to an allied health provider for up to 12 sessions or one year, whichever ends first.
- When you see your allied health provider, they will prepare a Patient Care Plan, talk to you about your goals and measure the effectiveness of your treatment. At the end of the treatment cycle, they will send a report to your GP.
- You and your GP will review the report together and discuss the progress of your treatment.
- Your GP will consider whether you need more allied health treatment or different treatment, or whether your health has improved and you no longer need allied health treatment.
- You can have as many treatment cycles as your GP decides you need.
- You will have a separate treatment cycle for each allied health service you require.
- You can have treatment cycles for different allied health services at the same time.

Principles of the treatment cycle

- You are always at the centre of your care. This means your health professionals inform and involve you in decisions about your health care and are respectful and responsive to your needs and values.
- Your GP coordinates your care and regularly reviews the effectiveness of your treatments. This helps you stay in control of your care and makes sure you get the most effective treatment for your needs.
- Your allied health providers work with you to set goals for your treatment. This means you understand the aim of your treatment, making it easier to stay motivated and achieve those goals.
- Your allied health providers measure progress against your goals. This lets you know if the treatment is effective, and helps decide whether to continue, change or stop treatment.

See the DVA website for more information and guidance about the treatment cycle: www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle

What do I need to do?

- Talk to your GP about the treatment cycle and how it might affect you.
- If you have a health issue and your GP thinks you need allied health treatment, they will give you a referral to start a treatment cycle.
- Ask your GP and allied health providers to help you manage your appointments and referrals under the treatment cycle.

Did you know?

On average, DVA clients who use allied health services see their GP 14 times a year. This means that, for most DVA clients, the treatment cycle will not change how often they need to see their GP.