

Dr Hemming Luu

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Friday, 15 September 2023

To our beloved Stonewall patients,

I am writing to inform you about a necessary change at Stonewall Medical Centre. To enable the continued bulk billing of our most vulnerable patients and to ensure the continued provision of high-quality healthcare services to our LGBTQIA+ community, I will change to privately bill all patients their **first** consultation each year as of December 2023 regardless of their concession entitlement.

Once you have paid for your **first** consult, I will then continue to bulk bill patients who hold a current concession entitlement. This fee will be billed once per 12 months, starting from December 2023.

The costs associated with my consultations are:

Short Consultation - \$141.20 or

Long Consultation - \$179.70

It will be billed with your consult and will mean that you will need to have the money in your bank account beforehand. Once you have received your Medicare refund, you will be out of pocket **\$100**. The rest of the visits for the year can continue to be bulk billed.

This decision was made after careful consideration, as we are committed to maintaining accessible healthcare for all our patients. Even with the increased bulk bill incentive, the current bulk billing rebate leaves us \$40 less than the normal rate per patient per consult. The introduction of this fee is essential to offset rising operational costs and to sustain the comprehensive care that our patients rely on.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we strive to secure the financial viability of Stonewall Medical Centre and continue to serve our community effectively.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hemming Luu