

Indicator: Continuity of Primary Care

Indicator Definition

Proportion of home care recipients with a high continuity of primary care

Indicator Specification

Numerator data source

MBS

Numerator

Number of recipients with a Usual Provider Continuity index ≥ 0.75 . Usual Provider Index is calculated using attendance from MBS groups (Table 1) and is defined as the proportion of attendances that is provided by the most frequently seen primary healthcare practitioner.

Table 1. MBS item codes for primary care encounters

Description	MBS Codes
General practitioner attendances to which no other item applies	A1
Other non-referred attendances to which no other item applies	A2
Prescribed medical practitioner health assessments	A7 MBS sub-group: A0705, A0706
Health assessments	A14
GP Chronic condition management plans, multidisciplinary care plans and case conferences	A15
Domiciliary and residential management reviews	A17
General practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies	A22
Other non-referred after-hours attendances to which no other item applies	A23
Medical practitioner (including general practitioner, specialist or consultant physician telehealth attendances)	A30
Telehealth and phone attendance services	A40

MBS: Medicare Benefits Schedule

Denominator

Number of home care recipients with 3 or more primary care attendances during the period of two years up to the date of exit from home care or end of the reporting period, whichever occurs first

Exclusions

Home care recipients with <3 encounters with a GP during the 2 years prior to the date of exit from home care or the end of the reporting period, whichever occurs first

Covariates

None

Stratifications

None

Comments

MBS items with the same provider on a single day are counted as a single encounter.

Urgent after-hours primary care attendances (MBS group A11) MBS codes are not included.

If the care recipients have been receiving home care package services for less than 2 years, then the attendances from prior home care package entry are included in the calculation.

MBS Items are reviewed each reporting year to ensure that items utilised in the reporting year are included.

Suggested citation: Registry of Senior Australians. Home Care Outcome Monitoring System Technical Specification – Continuity of primary care. Version 4.0. South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute. Adelaide, Australia; August 2026, 2 pages.

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