

## PRIVATE BILLING FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2018

Dear Valued Clients,

**Avoca Street Medical Centre will become a private billing practice from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018.**

The reasons for this change are:

- The steadily rising cost of running a modern medical practice: electricity, WHO-standard vaccine fridge maintenance, up-to-date medical software and computer maintenance, accreditation fees, staff training and wages, office overheads, etc.
- Medicare rebate freeze: The Australian government has frozen Medicare GP rebate from 2015 until later half of 2018. The minimal increase in rebate expected in August 2018 is not keeping up with the rising cost of running a GP practice.

Our staff can help send your claim to Medicare via secure internet. Once processed, your Medicare benefit will be deposited directly onto the EFTPOS card you used, or into the bank account you have registered with Medicare.

A limited number of clients will continue to be offered bulk billing, including:

- Veteran Affairs clients.
- Pensioners and Health Care Card holders — who have been seen at this practice regularly since before 2011.
- Children under 16 years of age — who or whose parents have been seen at this practice regularly since before 2011.

We understand that this policy change will somewhat affect you financially but hope that you support our struggle in maintaining a high level of medical service for you.

Please leave comments at our feedback page on [www.avocastreet.com](http://www.avocastreet.com).

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Avoca Street Medical Centre management team.

### Consultation Fees

Consultation type	Fee	Rebate	Cost out of pocket
Standard	\$60.00	\$37.05	\$22.95
Long	\$95.00	\$71.70	\$23.30
Extra long	\$140.00	\$105.55	\$34.45

(subject to change without notice)