

# SOUTHPORT PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTRE

**Autumn 2021**

## **The EPC/Medicare Program**

Your overall health should be your highest priority; however financial conditions can sometimes prevent us seeking treatment. The government subsidised EPC Program is an amazing way to obtain advice and treatment for chronic conditions that you may otherwise have been unable to afford.

### **What is the EPC Program?**

The EPC Program (Enhanced Primary Care Plan) is a Medicare rebated program which was established by the Australian government to aid those with chronic pain.

The EPC Program allows up to 5 Medicare rebated visits per calendar year.

These 5 sessions can be split between allied health professionals (for example; 3 for physiotherapy and 2 for a dietician).

### **How to find out whether you're eligible?**

Your GP is the only qualified health professional, with authority to refer you onto the EPC Program.

Known requirements for the EPC Program are that the patient must have a chronic complex condition. This can be determined by your GP.

**Southport Physiotherapy bulk bill EPC referrals so there is no out-of-pocket cost to the patient.**



**medicare**

### **How long is your referral eligible?**

Once you receive your referral for the EPC Program, your 5 Medicare rebated visits must be used within the calendar year, otherwise they will expire.

Once you receive the EPC Program, you are still eligible each year if you fit the criteria and the GP refers you.



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***If you wait  
for perfect  
conditions,  
you'll never  
get anything  
done.***

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