



# Australian Hypnotherapists' Association

Founded 1949 - ABN 20 004 388 872  
A Member of the Association of solution oriented counsellors and hypnotherapists of Australia  
A Member of the Australasian subconscious mind therapists association

P: 1300 55 22 54  
E: admin@ahahypnotherapy.org.au W: [www.ahahypnotherapy.org.au](http://www.ahahypnotherapy.org.au)

## **Private Health Funds that accept AHA members.**

**NB: HEALTH FUNDS WILL ONLY DEAL WITH ASSOCIATIONS – NOT INDIVIDUAL PRACTITIONERS**

The AHA is a “professional association’ within the meaning of section 10 of the Private Health Insurance Accreditation Rules 2008. This potentially allows AHA accredited members to be recognised as approved providers by various private health funds. Approved health fund provider status is, however, subject to each individual health fund’s requirements.

Consequently membership of the AHA does not automatically guarantee provider status with any health fund. Please also note that several health funds do not recognise courses done by distance education, or qualifications obtained overseas.

The AHA was the first hypnotherapy association to successfully negotiate provider numbers specifically for hypnotherapists in Australia. The AHA continues working towards gaining recognition by other health funds for its members. This list of health funds is currently being revised.

The list of AHA Clinical & Professional eligible members is automatically sent to the applicable private health funds that cover Hypnotherapy on the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is your responsibility to keep the AHA informed of your details. So be sure to notify the Health Fund Coordinator Amanda Franzi, admin@ahahypnotherapy.org.au; of any changes to your practice address (es) to ensure your information is kept up to date. Also, please ensure that the AHA always has a copy of your current professional indemnity insurance and current first aid certificate.

Lapsed membership, insurance or first aid will result in the health fund removing that member from their provider list. After which re-instatement may take a couple of months. Also you could then be required to upgrade your qualifications to current requirements prior to being re-instated by some health funds.

### **Change of Details**

To ensure you remain on the AHA monthly listing, please make sure that your membership fees are paid and that you have sent the Registrar copies of your AHA record Card, your current professional indemnity insurance, your current Applied first aid certificate and your National Police check or working with children check.

When you’re working with children or national police check or insurance or first aid expires during the year and we do not receive the updated policy prior to the monthly listing being circulated, we cannot update the information on the monthly list and the health funds will automatically remove your name from their data base and will not accept your clients until the AHA sends them the monthly updated information. Health funds will then not accept any receipts for the period during which you were removed from their data base. Re-instatement may take a couple of months.

The AHA Head Office will forward your change of details to our approved health funds on the next monthly list. Health funds can take up to one month to process change of details.



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## **Cancellation of the right to state you are a Health Fund Provider**

Members cease to be entitled to claim to be a health fund provider:

- If their membership of the AHA is suspended (for any reason) or cancelled
- If the AHA's agreement with the Health fund is cancelled
- Where the Health Fund notifies the AHA and/or a member that, that particular Member's entitlement is revoked or suspended (if suspended, the cancellation of the ability to advertise that you are a private health fund provider continues until the Health Fund notifies the AHA and/or the member that the suspension has been lifted)
- Or your Insurance or First Aid lapse

## **Conditions for your clients to receive rebates**

For Health Funds to rebate on services of accredited members, it is important that a proper receipt is issued to the client. Your receipts need to show:

- \* your name, full street address and phone number
- \* your AHA clinical membership number
- \* your ABN number
- \* the date of the appointment
  - the clients name
  - the amount paid for the session
  - the type of service the client received ie Hypnotherapy
- \* Note: Aha must have current evidence of your National Police check or Working with children check; first aid and insurance on file at all times.

As well as:

- \* Evidence of compliance with the AHA continuing Education Policy (CPD)
- \* Evidence of Compliance with the Terms and Conditions of Provider Status with the individual health funds.

An accredited member must never allow other practitioners, students or staff members to use their provider details, as this constitutes health fund fraud. Misrepresenting the service provided on the receipt also constitutes health fund fraud. Health Fund fraud is a criminal offence which may involve a police investigation and expulsion from the NHRA register.

Please be aware that whilst a health fund may indicate that they provide a rebate for hypnotherapy, this rebate may only be claimable if the client has the appropriate level of health cover with that fund and has not exceeded any limits on how much they are eligible to claim back over a certain period of time.

## **Change of Details**

The AHA Head Office will forward your change of details to our approved health funds on the next available monthly list. Health funds can take up to one month to process change of detail.

Your AHA accreditation does not guarantee provider status as all health funds have their own set of eligibility requirements. For rebate terms and conditions, your clients should contact their health fund. Policies may change without prior notice.



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## Which Funds Cover Hypnotherapy?

Your AHA membership number is to be used as your Provider number for some funds

**Australian Health Management (AHM)....** is owned by Medibank Private –

They will only deal with you once they have received registration from the association they need to be a registered Psychologist for all claiming outside of Quit smoking sessions. AHM only cover *stop smoking* all other registered hypnotherapists, You must display your Provider membership number from the AHA your level of membership being Clinical or Professional member, your name/practice address must be used as a stamp or printed from a computer generated invoice – Your receipt must say Quit smoking for Hypnotherapy. Limits are set by the level of cover the members have. Call 134246 – You will not be issued a provider number unless you are a Psychologist. (For all registered psychologists Please contact the AHA with this number when you have received it from AHM)

### **Australian Unity**

They will only deal with you once they have been registered from the association they will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list. But will only cover providers who were AHA members prior to 31-8-2013. After that date, only Government Accredited Diploma graduates will be accepted.

All benefits vary on the limit of cover the clients have. Receipts must display your practice address/Name the AU provider number provided and that it was a consultation of Hypnotherapy. Call 13 29 39 (Please contact the AHA with this number when you have received it from AU)

### **CBHS Health Fund**

They will deal with you once they have been registered from the association. They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list. On joining AHA, or when you upgrade your qualifications, the details of eligible members are automatically sent to CBHS each month. The details sent to CBHS are your name, practice address, telephone and accredited modality. Please use your AHA membership number as the Professional provider number.

### **Credicare Health Fund**

They will only deal with the association Your client must have a doctor's letter advising that they are having hypnotherapy for stress management or quit smoking. This is for a benefit of up to \$200 per family per year.

### **Grand United Health**

They will only deal with the association They will verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

**HBF (WA)** is owned by BUPA

They will only deal directly with yourself They will verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list and you must apply and fill in the necessary paper work with them directly.

### **Health Care Insurance Limited**

They will only deal with the association They cover *Quit Smoking* and *Weight Loss* programs only and they only provide a benefit of up to \$150 per year. They will verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

**Health.com.au**



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They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list.

Your AHA membership number must be shown on the receipt. The client will have 2 options for *weight management* and *stop smoking* they can go via a "health maintenance claim form" that can be downloaded from the Health.com.au website and must be signed by their GP cover up to \$200 and then they can also go via their "Natural Health Therapy cover for up to a further \$300.

Their Natural Health Cover section covers all other issues apart from the *stop smoking* and *weight management*.

A claim via their Natural Health Therapist Cover does not require a GP signature.

## Health Partners

They will only deal with the association they will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

## Medibank Private

They will only deal with the association. They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list and advise the Registrar of your provider number – who will then advise you accordingly

Note Hypnotherapy rebates are only available to Medibank Private Members that were members prior to April 2011 and were in the highest axillary package. New package allows their members to pick as to what they want to cover in their Axillary package when they join. Bonuses accumulate at \$50 per year total for the Axillary package. Once they've spent it, they start all over again and will not get axillary benefits again that year.

## Navy Health Fund

They will check to verify that you are on the AHA monthly list. **Navy Health Ltd** advises that you will need to apply for a Navy Health provider number. But this is **only** necessary if you have a Navy Health client. A provider number will be issued on the day of request for that client. This number will be your AHA membership number. You will need to show this number on the client's invoices/receipts. The Navy Health contact is: Claims Manager 1300 306 289 or direct (03) 9896 9310.

## NRMA Health Insurances (East Coast & Tasmania)

They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list. But only cover providers who were members prior to 31-3-2004

## Phoenix Welfare

They will only deal with the association. Only if the client has ancillary cover. They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

## Queensland Country Health

They will only deal with the association Will only cover hypnotherapy for *weight loss* or *quit smoking* under their healthy living benefit on the *Extras* cover. They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

## Railway and Transport Health Fund Ltd

They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list.

## Reserve Bank Health Society



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## Teachers Federation Health

They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list

## SGIC Health Insurance (SA and NT)

They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list and that you have a Diploma from an Australian RTO .

## SGIO Health Insurance (WA)

They will only deal with the association They will check to verify that you are on the current AHA monthly list and that you have a Diploma from an Australian RTO .

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## Remember

- Health Funds will rebate any medical or health procedure which they believe will either:
  - a) help them to keep down expenses [ie claims] to a minimum, or
  - b) Which are demanded by their members in sufficient numbers.
- Health Funds are not charities; they are profit oriented organisations with expenses to pay.
- Health Funds continually monitor the demands and wishes, comments and complaints from their members, in what has become a very competitive market place.
- Therefore, we need to keep encouraging our clients to complain to their health funds asking them to introduce hypnotherapy as an item to help them and get hypnotherapy to be recognised as a viable alternative.
- For us as hypnotherapists, we are now also involved in a highly competitive market, the rebate of our fees will act to the advantage of us all, by allowing us to treat more clients, with a therapy which is unique and successful.
- Please encourage your clients to pass on their comments and complaints to their Health Fund, so that the Funds will get an appreciation of what it is their members want.
- Such an endeavour will cost you a stamp, the printed letter, an envelope and a few minutes of your time. However it is an example of professional cooperative effort!
- If you would like to keep a record of the Health Funds you have forwarded such letters to and then email them to the Health Fund Coordinator, Amanda Franzi, The National Executive will also keep up the pressure.

## Non Participating Health Funds

**ACA Health Benefits Fund** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Australian Regional Health Group (ARHG)**

Some of the group covers Hypnotherapy with a psychologist, and others of the group do not.

**BUPA Australia** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**Credicare Health Fund** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Central West Health** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Cessnock District Health** - No Cover at the moment, however a submission has been made

**Community Mutual** - No Cover for Hypnotherapy, however a submission has been made

**Defence Health Partners** - No Cover for Hypnotherapy, however a submission has been made



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**Doctors Health Fund** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Federation Health** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**GMHBA (Geelong Medical)** - No Cover for Hypnotherapy

**GMF Health** No Cover for Hypnotherapy

**HBA** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**HCF**- No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Healthguard Health Benefits Fund:** No cover for Hypnotherapy

**HIF – Health Insurance Fund of WA** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Latrobe Health Services** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**Lysaght Peoplecare** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**Manchester Unity** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**MBF Australia Pty Ltd** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**MDHF (Mildura District Hospital Fund)** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**Mutual Community** – only covers Registered Psychologists

**National Health Benefits Australia Pty Ltd** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**NIB** - No cover for Hypnotherapy

**One Medi Fund** - only covers Registered Psychologists

**Police Health Fund** - only covers Registered Psychologists however we have made a submission

**St Lukes** - No Cover for Hypnotherapy

**Transport Health** - No cover for Hypnotherapy.

**Westfund** - only covers Registered Psychologists

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## Lobbying the Non Participating Health Funds

You may wish to write your own or cut and paste the pro-forma letter such as the following, for your clients to sign, if they agree, at the conclusion of their **first** session with you ... then **you** hold on to these and then at the end of each month you can either email or post them to:

Rachel Ford; PO Box 819 - Gosford NSW 2250.

Rachel will then collate all the letters from all the members and post them to the different Health funds (this is to save you the cost of postage etc)



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*The Chairperson  
Health Fund  
Address  
Date*

Dear Sirs,

Re: Hypnotherapy

As a member of your Health Fund, I wish to advise you that I have been treated by (*therapist's name*), a clinical/professional (*state which*) member of the Australian Hypnotherapists Association (AHA), and have found hypnotherapy to have been most effective.

I am surprised and dismayed to learn that you do not offer a rebate for this much cheaper, quicker and most effective treatment, and I wish to ask you to urgently consider including hypnotherapy, by an experienced registered AHA hypnotherapist, in your portfolio of available treatments.

Yours sincerely

*(clients signature)*

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