



F-111 deseal/reseal and other fuel tank maintenance workers

Claiming reimbursement of health care and medical expenses through the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme

Overview

This Factsheet provides information on claiming reimbursement for health care and medical expenses through the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme, for a range of conditions associated with F-111 deseal/reseal and other fuel tank maintenance work.

What is the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme?

The SHOAMP Health Care Scheme is a health care program that provides treatment and counselling services for serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force and civilian personnel who were involved in F-111 deseal/reseal and fuel tank maintenance work between 1973 and 2000. Eligible persons are called Group 1 SHOAMP Health Care Scheme participants.

Counselling services are also available to immediate family members of those personnel; and to certain others employed at RAAF Base Amberley at the time of the F-111 deseal/reseal programs. Eligible persons are called Group 2 participants.

Factsheet F111-08 SHOAMP Health Care Scheme – Eligibility refers .

What expenses can I claim reimbursement for?

If you are a Group 1 participant who has submitted a compensation claim for a health condition, you can request reimbursement for treatment costs (while that claim is awaiting determination). Such costs can be related to GP/specialist appointments, allied health care appointments and pharmaceuticals for the health conditions listed in Factsheet F111-07 – SHOAMP Health Care Scheme – Services Available.

You can also request reimbursement for travel expenses incurred for attending approved health care appointments.

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You can claim reimbursement for retrospective expenses (health care bills back to 20 September 2005) and current expenses.

You can claim for privately incurred expenses as well as the 'gap' fee for expenses where Medicare or private health insurance have paid part of the bill.

Reimbursement of travel is not available for Group 2 participants.

Eligibility for reimbursement of retrospective payments

If you are a Group 1 participant and you have submitted a compensation claim for any of the conditions covered under the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme, you may be able to receive full or partial reimbursement for privately incurred treatment expenses for those conditions.

Reimbursements will be provided from the date your compensation claim was submitted, up to the date your claim was/is determined. In some circumstances you can claim health care expenses even if your compensation claim was, or is, unsuccessful.

Please note that reimbursements may not be provided if treatment is *not* for one or more of the conditions covered, or if adequate documentation (see below) is not provided.

Can I claim reimbursement if I have been refunded through Medicare Australia, a health fund or other third party?

If you have claimed a refund through Medicare Australia, a health fund or other third party for treatment of your condition, you may be able to claim any gap fee – ie, to be refunded an amount that is the difference between the reasonable cost of treatment and any amount already refunded.

What documentation is required to make a claim?

Please provide the receipt you received from Medicare Australia (the *Statement of Claim and Benefit Payment*), the health fund or other third party, along with a photocopy of the original invoice/bill, if available.

If you do not have the above, you can contact Medicare Australia, your health fund or other third party, for an itemised statement for the period of your application for reimbursement.

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If you do not have any receipts (either original or re-issued), you will need to provide a statutory declaration detailing the name of your practitioner or medical provider; the condition/s treated; and the date and cost of the services/treatments. In the case of pharmaceuticals, please state the name of the pharmacy, the date of purchase, the name and cost of the medication. If available, please attach an itemised account statement which can be obtained from the medical provider or pharmacy.

(Statutory declarations can be downloaded from the Tier Classification page of DVA's F-111 website at: f111.dva.gov.au).

How do I request reimbursement?

Broadly, there are three steps: putting in a compensation claim; registering for the Health Care Scheme; lodging a reimbursement claim form. Each of these steps requires a different claim form, as follows:

1. Making a compensation claim for a medically diagnosed health condition - for compensation under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*) - use form [D2020: Claim for Rehabilitation and Compensation](#). This can be downloaded from the DVA F-111 website (f111.dva.gov.au Factsheets and Forms page).
2. Registering for the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme - use form [D9203: Application to register for the F-111 SHOAMP Health Care Scheme, Group 1 participants](#).
3. Requesting reimbursement - by lodging [D9218: Reimbursement Claim form – SHOAMP Health Care Scheme](#); (along with receipts, as above).

Where do I send my reimbursement claim form and other materials?

Please send the completed form, with receipts or statements attached, to:

SHOAMP Health Care Scheme
Department of Veterans' Affairs
GPO Box 9998
BRISBANE QLD 4001

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Where can I get further information?

Ph: 1800 728 007
Email: SHOAMP.healthcarescheme@dva.gov.au. If you intend to send personal information via email you will need to register an Authority for secure information pathway form (PDF 91 Kb).
Web: <http://f111.dva.gov.au>

Other Factsheets

Other Factsheets related to this topic include:

- F111-07 **SHOAMP Health Care Scheme – Services Available**
- F111-08 **SHOAMP Health Care Scheme – Eligibility**
- HSV64 **Medical expenses privately incurred**

All DVA Factsheets are available from DVA offices, and on the DVA website at www.dva.gov.au.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this Factsheet is general in nature and does not take into account individual circumstances. You should not make important decisions, such as those that affect your financial or lifestyle position, e.g. retirement, on the basis of information contained in this Factsheet. Where you are required to lodge a written claim for a benefit, you must take full responsibility for your decisions prior to the written claim being determined. You should seek confirmation in writing of any oral advice you receive from DVA relating to complex or important matters.

More information

All DVA Factsheets are available from DVA offices, and on the DVA website at www.dva.gov.au.

You can phone DVA for the cost of a local call* on **133 254** or free call **1800 555 254** if you are outside a major city.

Note: Use a normal landline phone if you can. Mobile phone calls may cost you more.*

You can phone the F-111 hotline on **1800 555 323**
You can visit the F-111 website: **f111.dva.gov.au**

You can email us at: **f111enquiries@dva.gov.au**
You can email DVA at: GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au.
You can also get more help from any DVA office.