

# GPS<sup>2</sup>

General Practitioner's Specialist Service  
Navigating Treatment Pathways

## Information For Workers



**GPS<sup>2</sup>** is a clinical support service aimed at providing General Practitioners (GPs) and workers (the patient) prompt guidance and support in the areas of diagnosis, best practice treatment, current work capacity and overall prognosis. This Specialist based advisory service is optional and at no cost to you or your GP.

### The GPS<sup>2</sup> Service

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service has been established by MedHealth to support treating GPs and workers to make confident healthcare and treatment planning decisions.

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is confidential, patient-centred and outcome focused and undertaken by reputable and skilled Specialists. It is also an assessment and opinion based service only – it is not a treating service.

**GPS<sup>2</sup>** does not replace your relationship with the GP or any other treating Specialist. It is another option for you and your GP to access. Your GP remains the primary care giver as the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** specialist's role is to provide an assessment and advisory service only.

### Why Consider A GPS<sup>2</sup> Opinion

Every injury and how a person experiences that injury is different. There can be a lot going on after an injury and many elements to consider. How your injury and your recovery from that injury is managed can be critical, especially in terms of your future working career and quality of life. It therefore may be helpful to equip yourself with the right specialist medical information to help you make the right choices.

You can seek a **GPS<sup>2</sup>** specialist opinion at any stage of your injury, whenever you need the peace of mind that you are on the right track or need further information to make decisions about your ongoing healthcare and recovery.

Through the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service you have the comfort of knowing you are accessing advice from highly reputable and skilled specialists in their fields of expertise.

Your GP or Insurer may also suggest a referral to **GPS<sup>2</sup>** services, however the decision is yours to make.

### When Should You Consider Getting A GPS<sup>2</sup> Opinion?

A **GPS<sup>2</sup>** opinion can help you in any of the following circumstances:

- > If you wish to confirm the original diagnosis.
- > If you feel you need further information to decide on course of treatment.
- > If you want to better understand your treatment options.
- > If you want to know whether surgery is necessary and appropriate.
- > If your symptoms are not improving or your recovery is not proceeding as you would like.
- > If you need advice about when it is safe to return to work and in what way.
- > If you have any other medical questions relating to your injury.

## How Does It Work?

We will ensure your appointment is made with a suitably qualified specialist in the appropriate field of medical specialty to your condition. The Specialist will consult with you and provide best practice care and treatment recommendations. It will then be up to you and your GP to decide what action to take in relation to your condition.

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist will review the available clinical records, images and test results (where applicable) and examine you as appropriate. They will liaise with your GP by telephone and provide your GP with a written consultation summary confirming their advice and recommendations. The consultation summary will advise on diagnosis, treatment recommendations, current capacity and prognosis. It will also address any other medical questions your GP or you may have.

The GP may also contact the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist for further advice, or refer you for reassessment as required.

In the majority of instances we will be able to offer you an appointment within 10 business days of the referral. A written consultation summary will be provided to your GP within 5 business days of the appointment.

## Eligibility

You are eligible for this service if your work injury claim is accepted or undetermined under the SA Return to Work scheme.

If your employer is a self insured employer, then we will seek prior approval from the employer for payment.

## Who Makes The Referral?

A referral to the service can be made by your GP or yourself. If you wish to consult a **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist, please speak to your GP or your Insurer's case manager as they can make the referral on your behalf. Your Insurer's case manager can only make a referral in collaboration and agreement with yourself and your GP.

## Is It Voluntary?

The decision to access, participate or utilise the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is up to you and your GP and will not affect your work injury claim entitlements. You can choose to participate or not, or withdraw at any time. There is also no 'compliance pressure' to follow the advice of the **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialist.

## The Difference

As a medical advisory service, **GPS<sup>2</sup>** Specialists are not vested in the provision of treatment services, nor are they influenced or involved in a medico-legal process.

If you have multiple injuries or complex health problems, there is the ability (where pre-approved) to be assessed by more than one Specialist (within the relevant fields of expertise). This can help facilitate an integrated and holistic approach to the provision of best care management of all your conditions.

## The New Return to Work scheme

The **GPS<sup>2</sup>** service is a type of second opinion medicine service and can be paid for under the Return to Work scheme.

The new Return to Work scheme is about positive collaboration with everyone working together to achieve the best health outcomes for you. This means placing your health and best practice medical treatment options first.

## To Find Out More

If you want to know more about **GPS<sup>2</sup>** or have a general enquiry, please contact:

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**A copy of the Referral Form can be obtained by calling us on the above telephone numbers.**