



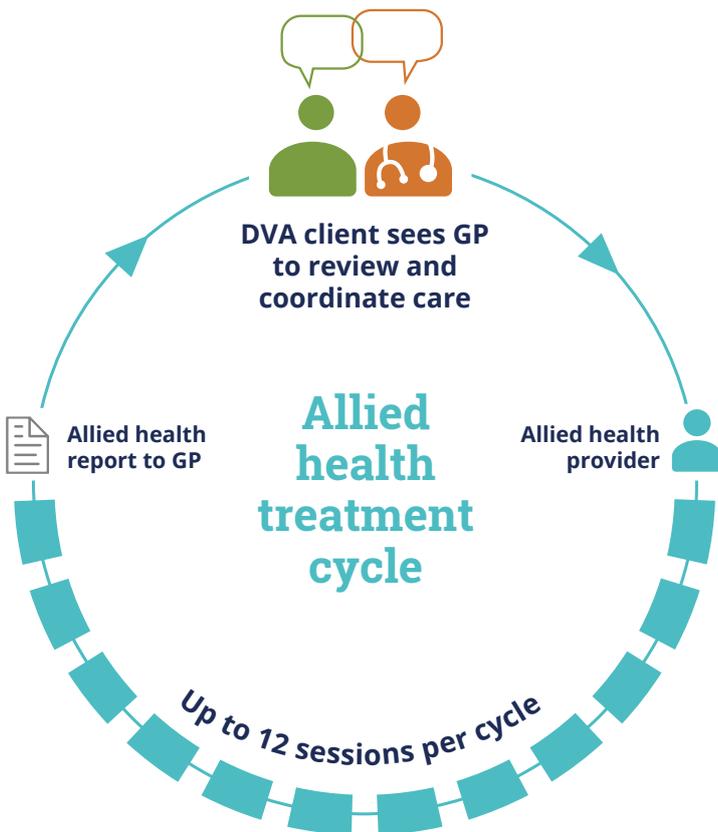
Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Allied health treatment cycle

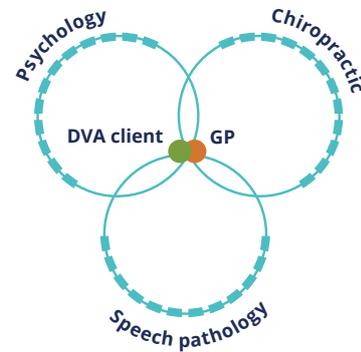
Allied health practice team

The treatment cycle is a new way to manage allied health treatment for DVA clients. It aims to improve the quality of care for clients and make sure they get the best treatment for their needs. It improves communication and coordination between clients, their GP and their allied health providers.

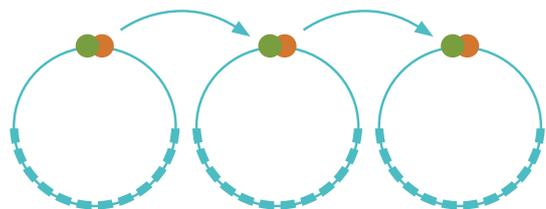
For more details and clinical resources, including which allied health professions are covered under the treatment cycle, see www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle



Multiple allied health treatment areas at the same time



No limit to the number of cycles that are clinically necessary





DVA clients who have a Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) Gold Card do not use the treatment cycle for physiotherapy and exercise physiology services.

Check the client's DVA card to see if they are a TPI client.

TPI clients receiving physiotherapy or exercise physiology:

- need an annual or indefinite referral for physiotherapy or exercise physiology
- can have as many sessions as are clinically necessary in the period covered by the referral
- do not need the physiotherapist or exercise physiologist to report to the GP after 12 sessions.

Exercise physiology and physiotherapy services for TPI clients must still be clinically necessary, evidence based and goals focused.

For allied health services other than physiotherapy or exercise physiology, TPI clients must use the treatment cycle.

See the DVA website for a leaflet for physiotherapy and exercise physiology practice teams:
www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle

What do I need to do?

The allied health practice team needs to:

- check the client's referral from their GP – the referral is valid for up to 12 sessions or one year, whichever ends first
- monitor how many sessions the client has over time, and talk to the allied health provider when the 12th session is approaching so they can prepare their report to the GP
- let the client know when the 12 sessions are almost finished so they can arrange an appointment with their GP for review
- assist the allied health provider to send the report to the client's usual GP at the end of the treatment cycle
- support the allied health provider to claim the End of Cycle Report item to receive a payment for completing the report
- inform the allied health provider if the DVA client has more than 12 sessions under a single referral. The client will need a new referral before receiving further treatment.

Why have a treatment cycle?

To improve the quality of DVA clients' care through coordination and better communication between GPs, allied health professionals and clients. The treatment cycle reinforces the role of the DVA client as the centre of care and the GP as the care coordinator.

The treatment cycle benefits DVA clients, GPs and allied health providers through:

- improved management planning
- increased coordination of care
- increased communication between providers
- stronger continuity of care and clinical accountability
- regular review to ensure that DVA clients get the most effective treatment for their needs.

See the DVA website for more information and guidance about the treatment cycle:
www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle

Did you know?

On average, DVA clients who use allied health services see their GP 14 times a year. This means that, for most DVA clients, the treatment cycle will not change how often they need to see their GP.