

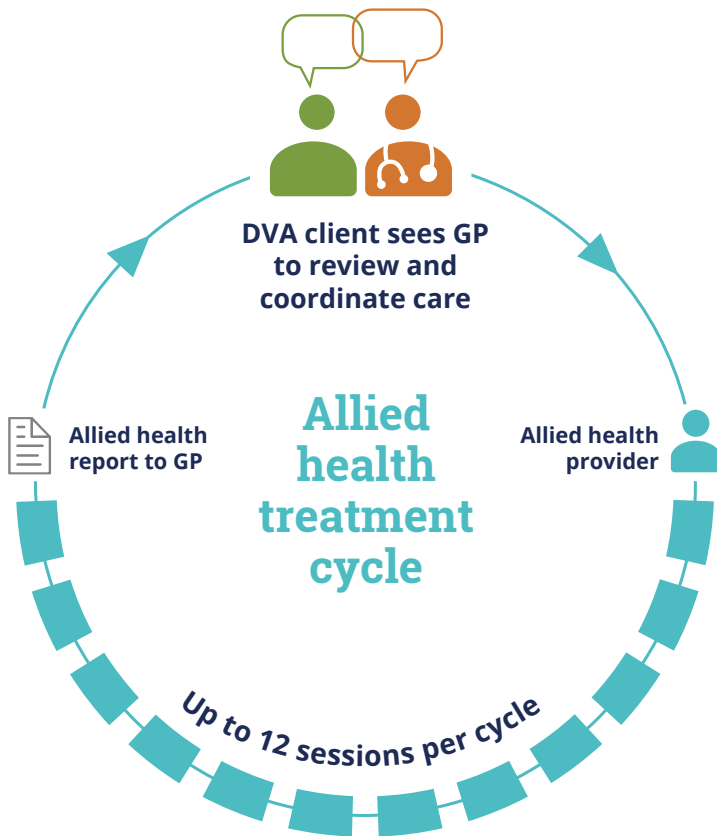


Allied health treatment cycle

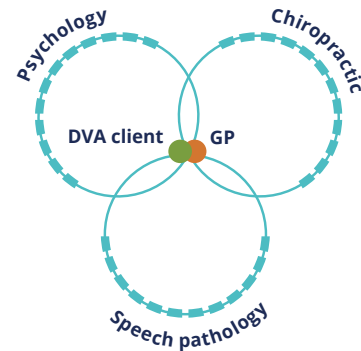
GPs

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.

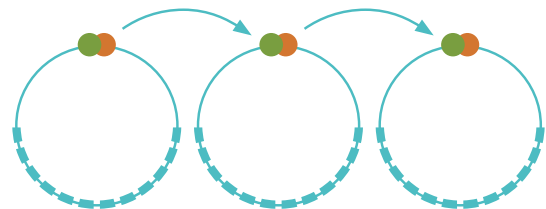
For more details and clinical resources, including which allied health professions are covered under the treatment cycle, see www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle



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.

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 physiotherapists and exercise physiologists:
www.dva.gov.au/treatment-cycle

What do I need to do?

As the DVA client's GP, you are the care coordinator in the treatment cycle. For all DVA clients, except for TPI clients receiving physiotherapy or exercise physiology, you need to:

- provide referrals to allied health providers for DVA clients when clinically necessary – each referral is valid for up to 12 sessions or one year, whichever ends first
- include the details required by DVA in referrals you make to allied health providers
- communicate with the allied health provider as required during the cycle
- review the report from the allied health provider with the DVA client at the end of each cycle. This report should be used to assist your review of the client's progress
- assess whether further allied health treatment is clinically required for the client and whether other treatment options are needed
- provide a new referral for allied health treatment if clinically indicated
- coordinate the client's care among all their allied health providers, and encourage and support self-management.

Why have a treatment cycle?

To improve the quality of DVA clients' care through coordination and better communication between GPs, allied health providers 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.