

Former Refugee Subsidy



A programme by **WellSouth**

Last updated: 28/04/2025

Intended Purpose

The overall purpose of this programme is to support families to resettle in New Zealand. Refugees often have high health needs on arrival. They are at substantially higher risk than the general population for a variety of specific health issues. It is necessary for health services to be culturally and linguistically responsive to refugee groups that they serve, provide improved access to services to enable early intervention, and to reduce avoidable hospital admissions.

HealthPathways Link: <https://southern.communityhealthpathways.org/32835.htm>

Eligibility

- The patient must be registered on the programme by WellSouth at the time of arrival (ahead of first appointment)

Key Information

- Former Refugee patients enrolled in a WellSouth practice within Dunedin and Invercargill are eligible for funded GP and Nurse appointments for the first 3 years of their resettlement.
- An initial extended appointment is available to each patient at the beginning of their enrolment (usually within the first 4 weeks).
- Ongoing visits can be claimed for the duration of the 3 year period at a variable rate—maximum \$92 (incl GST).
- Payment is at a higher rate in recognition of the need to use interpreters for appointments. It is strongly recommended you use an interpreter especially for early appointments until you know the patient. See [HealthPathways](#) for information on booking interpreters.

Claiming

Claiming is via the WellSouth PHN portal.

Former Refugee Subsidy	New Consult	Enrolled at WellSouth
		Arrived on 01 April 2021
		Eligible until 30 April 2021
		WellSouth Navigator: Name
		Red Cross Caseworker: Name

Service codes for your PMS

Please set these up prior to using the programme.

Code	Amount (incl. GST)	Description
WPFRSI	\$184.00	Fmr Ref Initial Consult
WPFRSC	\$ 0.00	Ongoing Visits

Payment Rates

\$ 160.00 + GST Initial consult.

\$ 80.00 + GST (max) Subsidy consults (value can be changed when submitting the claim).

Can a co-payment be charged?

No co-payment can be charged.

When does the claim need to be completed?

Claiming must be completed within 2 months of treatment

If your PMS is aligned to the WellSouth Clinical BCTIs, please contact practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz with your new Account Internal ID.

For further information regarding this programme please contact practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz or your Primary Care Relationship Manager .