

## **REFERRAL TO WENTWEST PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (PHN) NETWORK:**

You will receive high-quality care from the Psychiatrists at Mind Connections Specialists Health Services (MCSHS). The specialists at MCSHS are experienced in a range of sub-specialties. Appointments are organised Face-to-face and as telehealth consultations.

### **What is not covered under the Service?**

This Service is not designed for medico-legal/court reports, firearms assessments, 3rd parties such as work cover NDIS or Disability Support Pension Assessments, or RTA Forms for driver eligibility. Additionally, this Service is not for the treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders as a primary reason for referral— such as ADD/ADHD or Autism Spectrum Disorders. This is also not an emergency/crisis service.

The patient should not have expectations that Psychiatrists can endorse S8 drugs, including stimulants for ADHD, Benzodiazepine prescriptions and cannabis oil prescriptions.

### **Eligibility**

People aged 18+ experiencing a severe and persistent mental illness and their treating GP are eligible to access the Service.

There are two equally important parts to this Service:

- For you:  
Provide free and accessible psychiatry services limited to 3 consultations for assessment and brief intervention.
- For your GP:  
Provide advice and capacity building to enable them to treat you better and support your mental health needs.

The Service offers flexible delivery via video conferencing and is available to any general practice in North Western Sydney.

### **How do I have access to Wentwest PHN services?**

WentWest PHN accepts direct referrals from local GPs for the financially disadvantaged.

1. Your GP or nurse practitioner checks your eligibility and refers you to Wentwest PHN. Please **DO NOT** send the referral directly to Mind Connections Specialist Health Services.
2. WentWest PHN will access the referral and notify Mind Connections Specialist Health Services (MCSHS) about the approval.
3. MCSHS will contact you to arrange an appointment with one of our experienced Psychiatrists.

4. If our staff cannot contact you via mobile, after x 3 attempts, you will be discharged to GP as "Uncontactable", and WentWest PHN will be notified of the outcome.
5. The cancellation and 'no-shows' policies are the same as other patients attending Mind Connections Specialist Health Services.

### **What happens if I need more than three sessions?**

You may discuss a re-referral via Wentwest PHN with the Psychiatrist.  
The Psychiatrist may advocate for you and request further sessions from the Wentwest PHN.

If further sessions are not approved, you may elect to be a fee-paying patient at Mind Connections Specialist Health Services.

It is not uncommon for patients to change their GP I NP. Please make sure you update details with our services.

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