

Position Statement

Seeking ACC payment for treatment provided by allied health students



This statement clarifies the ACC position about seeking payment from ACC for treatment provided by allied health students during clinical placement.

Schedule 1, clause.1 of the Accident Compensation Act 2001 states that ACC is liable to pay or contribute to the cost of the client's treatment for personal injury for which they have cover. The Act also states that ACC can only pay for treatment provided by qualified treatment providers registered with ACC.

As registered treatment providers, you take full responsibility for ensuring that treatment is provided and invoiced for a personal injury for which the client has cover and only if that treatment meets the legislative requirements of being:

- necessary and appropriate, and of the quality required, for that purpose
- performed only on the number of occasions necessary for that purpose
- given at a time or place appropriate for that purpose
- of a type normally provided by a treatment provider
- provided by a treatment provider of a type who is qualified to provide that treatment and who normally provides that treatment
- provided after the ACC has agreed to the treatment.

If you're a registered treatment provider with the responsibility of supervising a student (e.g. an intern, university or polytechnic student) deemed to be working in the capacity of an allied health student during clinical placement, we can pay for treatment provided by these students if the following criteria is met:

- consent from the client is clearly documented in the clinical records
- you are personally present providing direct supervision throughout the treatment delivery, taking responsibility for assuring the standard of the treatment provided.

These criteria must also be met where students are involved with provider led services held outside of the normal clinical placement programme such as with sports teams.

Considerations

As the supervising, qualified treatment provider, you remain responsible for the outcome of any clinical management decisions and treatment delivered to the client. You are also responsible for ensuring that any contracted arrangements held with ACC and the students own professional standards/code of practice are met.

Payment for treatment cannot be made against a student's name, as they are not qualified providers and cannot be registered as ACC providers.

If providing services outside of the normal clinical placement programme, students and their supervisors should confirm with the relevant educational institution if the individual is considered to be acting as an allied health student, on a sanctioned clinical placement.

Where we find that the criteria for payment from ACC for treatment provided by allied health students during clinical placement have not been met and it is not clinically justified we will seek reimbursement of any payments made.

Please contact your local ACC Engagement and Performance Manager if you have any further questions. Contact details can be found on our website

www.acc.co.nz/for-providers/provide-services/engagement-performance-managers/