



TPI FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

“Different Conflicts – Same Sacrifice”



Federation President’s Report

August 2017

Since my last report, the 2017/2018 budget details has been released. The major item in the budget for Veterans and their families is the expansion of the Non-Liability Health Care (NLHC) facilities that are provided by DVA.

The expansion of access to treatment under the Non-Liability Health Care arrangements will cover the following mental health categories. These are detailed in the *American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)*.

Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Dissociative Disorders	Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders
Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders	Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders
Bipolar and Related Disorders	Feeding and Eating Disorders	Neurocognitive Disorders
Depressive Disorders	Elimination Disorders	Personality Disorders
Anxiety Disorders	Sleep-Wake Disorders	Paraphilic Disorders
Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders	Sexual Dysfunctions	
Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders	Gender Dysphoria	

The other major expansion of this is that the Non-Liability Health Care is available for ALL Veterans regardless of where, or when, they spent their Service. If any ADF or ex-ADF person spent more than one day in the Service then they are now entitled to the NLHC services from VVCS.

The NLHC was also expanded to include eligibility for any spouse/partner (not divorced) or child of a Veteran of any era. The only stipulation that remains is the entitlement for grandchildren which is still limited to grandchildren of Vietnam Veterans.

Should you have any question on this please contact me at federation@tpifed.org.au or 0417 291 546. You should also contact your nearest State/Territory TPI Association for additional information.

I also draw you attention to important information that was included in the Winter edition of VetAffairs. There is an on-line copy of this issue at <http://bit.ly/2vkbvdH>.

On Page 4 there is additional information on the Aged Care Services offered by DVA and MyAgedCare. The MyAgedCare system can be quite complex and confusing so make sure you receive the information you need before making major decisions on this.

Also on Page 4 there is a chart outlining the changes to the Indexation of rates as at 1st July 2017. This may affect your income support payments so check the new limits for your circumstances.

On page 6 there is important information on the changes to the Age Pension age that commenced on the 1st July.

Finally, there is a story on Page 13 advising the annual increase in Travel Allowances for transport, meals and accommodation when travelling for treatment purposes or disability and income support claims.

The Annual General Meeting for the TPI Federation is to be held on the 11th – 13th September in Canberra. If you have any issues that you want your State/Territory Association Directors to bring with them to Canberra, please let them know. If you don't tell us what your issues that need to be addressed are, then it is harder to assist you. We are here to help you.



Ms Pat McCabe OAM

Email: federation@tpifed.org.au

Ph: 0417 291 546

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