



CLEFTPALS VICTORIA

THE CLEFT PALATE & LIP SOCIETY

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FINANCIAL BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO CLEFT PATIENTS

DENTAL HEALTH CARD:

HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION - Cleft Palate & Lip Scheme

All children born with a cleft (of any type) are entitled to this scheme.

This card is in addition to your normal Medicare card and entitles you to a special Medicare rebate (85% of the schedule fee) on some dental and most Orthodontic work your child may require. Treatment must be carried out by a registered practitioner. The card you receive is then used in relation to your visits with a registered dentist or orthodontist until the child reaches the age of 28 years.

You can obtain the application form from your plastic surgeon, orthodontist, or from the Health Insurance Commission. Your plastic surgeon, orthodontist, or your GP can fill it in.

For further information on the Dental Scheme or for application forms, contact:

Health Insurance Commission on: (02) 6124-6328 and ask for the Cleft Palate & Lip Scheme.

You can also contact CleftPALS for a sheet on How to Claim Medicare Benefits for Dental/Orthodontic Work.

VICTORIAN PATIENT TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE SCHEME (VPTAS):

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES VICTORIA.

This scheme provides financial assistance with travel and accommodation costs to Victorian residents who reside more than 100 kilometres from specialised medical and/or dental treatment. To apply for this assistance you need to obtain a form from your doctor's surgery, or regional DHS office.

Certain conditions do apply so please phone your nearest DHS regional office for a copy of the guidelines.

For further information: Contact CleftPALS for a Fact Sheet (includes list of regional office phone numbers)

Try this website: www.disabilityinfo.org.au

Department of Human Services Ph. (03) 9616-7777

CARER ALLOWANCE:

CENTRELINK

This used to be known as Child Disability Allowance.

Centrelink offers benefits for those caring for a child with a disability/medical condition who meet certain criteria.

Carer Allowance has two levels:

(1) Health Care Card

Criteria for eligibility - A dependant child under 16 years who requires substantially more care and attention compared to a child of the same age without a disability

(2) Health Care Card with fortnightly payment (Carer Allowance)

Criteria for eligibility - A dependant child under 16 years who has a disability that

(a) appears on a list of disabilities/conditions which results in automatic qualification (clefts are **NOT** on this list)

(b) must cause the child to function below the standard for his/her age level.

This level is intended for significant disabilities/conditions.

You may be entitled to one of these forms of assistance; it would be advisable to apply.

For further details, or to order a claim pack call: Centrelink Ph. 13 27 17.

Carer's Association Victorian Branch (for further information or support) Ph. 9650-9966

This information is intended as a guide only. It is not intended as a substitute for professional advice and no liability is accepted.