

**Australian Government****Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing**

Dear Stakeholder,

The Australian Government provides financial assistance through the Medical Treatment Overseas Program (MTOp) for approved applicants to access life-saving treatment overseas, where the proposed treatment, or an effective alternative treatment is not available in Australia.

I am writing to advise of recent updates to the guidelines and application forms for the MTOp.

Updates have been made to the MTOp Guidelines to provide clarity on some elements of the program and adjust administrative processes. No changes have been made to the eligibility criteria, including the four medical eligibility criteria.

The revised Guidelines and application forms are available on the Department's website at: [Medical Treatment Overseas Program | Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing](#)

I request your assistance in advising your members that:

- MTOp is available to support patients requiring life-saving treatment overseas, where the proposed treatment, or an effective alternative treatment is not available in Australia.
- An Australian specialist medical practitioner can apply to the MTOp on behalf of their patient.
- The Australian treating specialist applying to the MTOp must:
 - Refer the patient to the overseas treating facility (or provide evidence that another Australian specialist referred the patient to the overseas treating facility).
 - Complete the relevant sections of the MTOp application form and provide all required documentation as set out in the application form.

- The MTOP Guidelines and application forms can be found on the department's website, and the department welcomes contact from Australian treating specialists considering referring their patients overseas for treatment.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Trainor
Director
Medical Specialist and Overseas Treatment Section
Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division

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