



TPI FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

“Disabled in our Service - United in our Cause”



Federation President's Report

January 2025

Happy New Year to you all and hopefully this election year will provide some benefits for TPIs and their families.

Email Concerns

Unfortunately, there is still some discord surrounding myself and the TPI Federation by a few TPIs. Not all these TPIs are members of any State or Territory TPI Association but they continue to spread incorrect information and attempt to mislead TPIs. Should you have concerns on any of the emails that have circulated over the last few months, please email me to gain clarification of any points of concern.

2025 Pharmaceutical Costs

The pharmaceutical co-payment for your DVA scripts remains at \$7.70 per script. The concessional safety net also remains unchanged at \$277.20 or 36 scripts. The Pharmaceutical Allowance remains at \$6.80 or 88% of one script per fortnight. The TPI Federation continues to have this inequity addressed for TPI/SRDPs. To my knowledge there were no changes to benefits or allowances as of 1 January 2025.

TPI Federation President Election – 2025

This year the TPI Federation President's position is open for the bi-annual election process. Should any TPI be interested in gaining more information on this, they can contact me or their State/Territory TPI Association for details. The nominations for this position are open to any TPI who is a financial member of a Member of any TPI Federation State/Territory TPI Association. Nomination forms shall be posted to State/Territory TPI Association Presidents by the Returning Officer by 11th July 2025 and must be returned to the Returning Officer by 31st July 2025. Results will be announced on 30th August 2025.

Interim Head of the Defence and Veterans' Service Commission

The DVA Minister recently announced that the Albanese Labor Government is continuing to deliver on our response to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide through swift action on key recommendations. The Albanese Government has appointed Mr Michael Manthorpe PSM as the Interim Head of the Defence and Veterans' Service Commission. Mr Manthorpe will head the interim organisation and work across government to deliver the establishment of a legislated oversight body by September 2025.

This appointment is a significant milestone in implementing recommendation 122 of the Royal Commission's Final Report. Mr Manthorpe has served in the Australian Public Service for 37 years, including as Commonwealth Ombudsman, which incorporates the roles of Defence Force Ombudsman, among others, from 2017 to 2021.

Veterans access to better hearing support

The DVA Minister also announced that more than 10,000 Australian veterans will this year be more empowered when it comes to hearing health, with significant improvements to how the Albanese Government supports those with hearing impairment. Hearing loss and tinnitus are some of the most common conditions resulting from military service. These conditions affect individuals differently, at times it can be frustrating and isolating, affecting a person's overall health and wellbeing.

The Albanese Government acknowledges those who have long advocated for improved hearing support for veterans, to improve their quality of life. Now, veterans experiencing hearing impairment will have better access to a variety of hearing aids and supports through the Department of Veterans' Affairs' - Veteran Hearing Services Framework.

With a renewed focus on supporting overall wellbeing and quality of life, the Framework considers the broader implications of hearing impairment for each individual, including on their health, social support and connection

and employment and volunteer work, to ensure Australia's veterans receive the practical hearing support they need, when and how they need it. This will also speed up requests for complex hearing conditions while improving information available to veterans, families and service providers.

If any Veteran is having difficulty in gaining their needed hearing aid requirements, they are encouraged to contact this office for further assistance.



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