



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health**

## **Q&A: Changes to the Aged Care Funding Instrument, 1 January 2017**

### ***Why has the Government made changes to the measures announced in the 2016-17 Budget?***

Following consultation with the sector, the Government has adjusted or removed some of the previously proposed changes relating to the delivery of complex pain management.

These measures will be replaced by an indexation pause for all ACFI domains in 2017-18, and a 50 per cent indexation pause on the Complex Health Care (CHC) domain in 2018-19.

Rural and remote services will be supported by an increase in the viability supplement for eligible aged care providers. This is in addition to the increase in the viability supplement already announced in the Budget.

### ***How will the changes apply to reappraisals?***

The new rules will apply to all reappraisals (including mandatory reappraisals) undertaken for existing care recipients with an effective date on or after 1 January 2017. This includes reappraisals lodged on or after 9 December 2016 with a date of effect of 1 January 2017 or later.

### ***What is different when I complete an ACFI appraisal for a new care recipient or a reappraisal for an existing care recipient with an effective date on or after 1 January 2017?***

There is very little practical difference when completing an ACFI appraisal or reappraisal compared to the current system. Approved providers will need to refer to the new ACFI resource documents and ensure when making claims they meet the evidence requirements as set out in these documents. A specific change to note is for claims in ACFI 12.4b where records will now need to be kept to evidence the 80 minutes of one-on-one delivery of treatment by an allied health professional per week.



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***Where can I find more information?***

The updated ACFI resource documents, being the User Guide, ACFI Answer Appraisal Pack and ACFI Assessment Pack, are available at:

<https://agedcare.health.gov.au/aged-care-funding/residential-care-subsidy/basic-subsidy-amount-aged-care-funding-instrument>.

These documents include the 2016-17 revised budget measure, as outlined in the fact sheet found at [agedcare.health.gov.au](https://agedcare.health.gov.au), as well as minor technical amendments to bring them in line with current aged care terminology. Adjustments have also been made to the User Guide to improve clarity and consistency, as well as incorporating advice provided to providers through the Department of Health's *Information for Aged Care Providers* newsletter in the last 12 months.

Information about the changes for software vendors is available by contacting the Department of Human Services (DHS) Online Technical Support on 1300 550 115 or [otsliaison@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:otsliaison@humanservices.gov.au)

For any general enquiries please email [ACFIPolicy@health.gov.au](mailto:ACFIPolicy@health.gov.au) or for DHS related ACFI claiming inquiries please email [residential.agedcare.policy@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:residential.agedcare.policy@humanservices.gov.au).