



Enhancing the health and wellbeing of veterans and serving members

This measure invests \$739.2 million over four years from 2025-26 (and \$130.2 million in 2029-30 and \$159.3 million per year ongoing from 2030-31) for prevention and rehabilitative treatment services to achieve better long-term health and wellbeing outcomes for veterans.

It includes emphasising up-front early intervention and treatment and implementing a streamlined and transparent claims process for veterans through MyService.

As part of this measure, a National Study on Treatment Effectiveness will be established, aimed at delivering modern, evidence-based mental health care for veterans and better collaboration and connections in treating practitioners. The study will:

- include specific research into the effectiveness of PTSD and other mental health treatments for veterans
- see partnerships with organisations delivering and trialling innovative mental health treatments
- improve mental health supports across the continuum of care, by incentivising mental health care planning and connections between treating practitioners
- expand the workforce of military aware mental health professionals in Northern Australia.

Why is this important?

By emphasising up-front early prevention and rehabilitative treatment, this measure will achieve better, long-term health and wellbeing outcomes for serving ADF members and veterans. In line with the outcomes of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, this measure also directly addresses drivers of suicidality.

This measure builds on a renewed focus on the lifetime wellbeing of veterans and families of veterans and complements the establishment of a new agency for veteran and family wellbeing.

Veterans will have access to better, modern prevention and early rehabilitative treatment, before conditions deteriorate or become chronic, improving their long-term health, wellbeing and quality of life.

A National Study on Treatment Effectiveness will deliver modern, evidence-based therapies for veterans with PTSD, anxiety and depression. The National Study will deliver further research into the effectiveness of PTSD and other mental health treatments, see partnerships with organisations delivering innovative mental health treatments and an expansion of trained, culturally aware mental health professionals in Northern Australia. Incentivised mental health care planning and connections between treating practitioners, and a review of the Coordinated Veterans Care (CVC) program, will enable veterans to access connected mental health support across the continuum of care.

Who will benefit?

Current serving members, veterans and families of veterans.

Date of effect?

1 July 2026.

How much will this cost?

\$739.2 million over four years from 2025-26.