



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE
OF DERMATOLOGISTS

Cost to see a dermatologist

Dermatologists are specialist medical doctors. They are the experts in diagnosing and treating hair, skin, and nail conditions.

Dermatologists must undertake many years of education and training. They first do a medical degree at university, then they spend at least 2 years doing medical training in a hospital as a junior doctor.

Then, to become a dermatologist they do at least 4 years of specialist dermatology training under the supervision of the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD).

How much does it cost to see a dermatologist?

If you see a dermatologist for a private appointment, you may have to pay a fee. This is called an out-of-pocket cost.

If you see a dermatologist in a public hospital or health service, you generally will not have to pay.

Dermatologists, like all other medical specialists, set their own fees.

The ACD does not provide advice on or set dermatologists' fees.

Tips

- Make sure you have a valid referral before making an appointment.
- Check fees and when you will have to pay by contacting the clinic or checking the dermatologist's website before your appointment.
- Check if a cancellation fee applies if you cannot attend your appointment.

The Australasian College of Dermatologists worked with the Australian Medical Association and other organisations to develop a guide, [Informed Financial Consent: a Collaboration between doctors and patients](#), to help you work with your doctor to understand health care and its costs.

Can I get a Medicare rebate when I see a dermatologist?

If you are eligible for Medicare and have a valid referral, Medicare will refund part or all of your fee.

Can I use my private health insurance?

This will depend on what type of health insurance cover you have and where you are seeing the dermatologist.

Private health insurance does not cover consultations and procedures done in a dermatologist's private consulting rooms but may, depending on your insurance, cover some or all of your treatment undertaken in hospital.

You will need to check with your private health insurer.

How many times will I see my dermatologist?

You may only need to see your dermatologist once or twice. In other cases, you may need regular appointments to manage a long-term condition.

I'm having trouble paying - what options do I have?

Discuss options with your dermatologist.

The Medicare safety nets are there to help you cover ongoing costs. [More about Medicare Safety Nets](#)

Remember

- ✓ Dermatologists are specialist medical doctors. They are experts in diagnosing and treating hair, skin and nail conditions.
- ✓ Call the dermatologist's clinic to ask about fees before your first appointment.
- ✓ Medicare will cover some of the costs of your dermatology appointment provided you have a valid referral.
- ✓ If you are having trouble paying, speak to your dermatology clinic about the options available.

This factsheet is also available online at dermcoll.edu.au

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About us

Dermatologists are doctors who are the medical specialists in skin health.

The Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD):

- Trains and supports dermatologists
- Advocates for better skin health for our communities
- Sets the clinical standard in dermatology



This is a general guide only and does not replace individual medical advice. Please speak to your doctor for advice about your situation. The ACD is not liable for any consequences arising from relying on this information.