

# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Medicare Provider Numbers post fellowship

**Is vocational registration automatic once a registrar has received notification that they have successfully passed all college requirements? (ie passed all exams)**

No. The fellowship process can take from 10 to 12 weeks following eligibility and submission of all documents.

**Can I engage my registrar as a contractor as soon as confirmation of having passed their college examinations is received?**

No. Your registrar cannot be engaged as a contractor until they have received their fellowship documentation, a new Medicare Provider Number (MPN), has their own Medical Indemnity Insurance and a current AHPRA registration.

**Is the Medicare Provider Number (MPN) the same as for a vocationally registered GP?**

No. The AGPT issued MPN is only valid for the duration of their training.

**Do registrars need a new MPN once fellowed?**

Yes. This question may arise if you intend on contracting your registrar once they have successfully completed the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program and obtained a fellowship qualification.

**Who is responsible for obtaining the new MPN?**

The registrar is responsible for applying for a new MPN application.

**How can my registrar obtain a new MPN that reflects their vocational registration status appropriately once fellowed?**

Your registrar will need to complete and return an ['Application for a Medicare provider number and, or prescriber number for a medical practitioner form \(HW019\)'](#) to the Department of Health (Provider Registration Section) or apply on-line the [Health Professional On-line Services \(HPOS\) portal](#).

**How will I know if the new MPN has been issued for their use at my practice?**

As your GP registrar is the applicant and applications are protected by privacy law, the only person who can check the status is the registrar. They can do so by checking their application status via the [Health Professional On-line Services \(HPOS\) portal](#).

**Can the new vocationally registered practitioner bill Medicare without their new MPN?**

It is illegal to bill Medicare without a valid MPN. If the registrar AGPT issued MPN is still current they can continue to bill until replaced by their vocationally registered MPN. Practices should be mindful to check the expiration date of the MPN being used.