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Dear allied health practitioner

As you may be aware KPMG has been contracted by the Department of Health and Ageing to assist in the evaluation of the Better Access Initiative. We have undertaken a wide range of consultations with professional groups such as the APS, AASW, OTA at a national and state and territory level. Building upon these consultations we are now seeking the direct input of practitioners providing primary mental health care through the following activities.

1. Teleconference of AHPs in rural and remote areas

These teleconferences will be used to explore issues specific to regional, rural and remote communities. Each teleconference will last approximately one hour and are scheduled as follows:

Date	Time zone	Time
Monday 6 July	Sydney/Brisbane/Melbourne/Canberra/Hobart	6:30pm
	Adelaide/Darwin/Alice Springs	6:00pm
	Perth	4:30pm
Tuesday 7 July	Sydney/Brisbane/Melbourne/Canberra/Hobart	4:00pm
	Adelaide/Darwin/Alice Springs	3:30pm
	Perth	2:00pm
Wednesday 8 July	Sydney/Brisbane/Melbourne/Canberra/Hobart	8:00pm
	Adelaide/Darwin/Alice Springs	7:30pm
	Perth	6:00pm

There will be no cost to you to call into this teleconference. If you are interested in participating in any of these teleconferences, please email betteraccess@kpmg.com.au and we can provide you with details about how to access the teleconference.

2. Online survey

The purpose of this survey is to seek the perceptions of psychologists, social workers and OTs on the impact of Better Access Initiative. The survey will only take 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

When the survey is finalised we will forward a reminder to you containing a hyperlink to the survey.



3. Small Area consultations

A number of face-to-face consultations in small groups will be undertaken in certain regions of Australia. A broad range of stakeholders will be invited to attend, including medical practitioners (GPs, psychiatrists, paediatricians), non-government organisations, public mental health providers, private allied health professionals (psychologists, OTs and social workers), and consumers and their carers.

Workshops will be held in the following regions:

- Inner South East Melbourne (Thursday 25th June)
- Fremantle, WA (Tuesday 30th June)
- Geelong, VIC (Tuesday 30th June)
- Bankstown, NSW (Thursday 9th July)
- Ayre Peninsula, SA (week of 13th July – date to be confirmed)
- Hobart/South Eastern Tasmania (Wednesday 1st July)

If you are interested in attending any of these workshops, or receiving a summary of issues raised at the workshop, please email betteraccess@kpmg.com.au indicating which workshop or contact Shane Rendalls on (02) 9335 8857.

Information on the MBS Better Access Initiative can be found by clicking on the following hyperlink: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mental-ba>

Thank you for your participation and assistance in this evaluation.