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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NEW ACCOUNTS SYSTEM AT WIMMERA HEALTH CARE GROUP**

Wimmera Health Care Group will introduce an up front payment system for all allied health services.

Chief Executive Chris Scott said that the new system would commence on 1<sup>st</sup> November and that there will be no "booking up" of accounts after that date.

"The new system will apply to all allied health services provided by Wimmera Health Care Group and is consistent with the Department of Health Fees Policy requirements."

"People will be asked to pay at the reception desk when they come in for their appointment. They will then need to present their receipt as proof of payment, before the service is provided to them" he said.

Mr Scott said that patients would be advised of the cost when making their appointment. "Most services will generally cost less than \$20 per session, however, there may be additional charges for some services such as podiatry to cover the cost of dressings, etc., and for consultations above the standard appointment time" he said.

The new system will apply to occupational therapy, physiotherapy, podiatry, speech pathology and dietetic services.

Anyone with questions about the new payment system for allied health services should contact Ms Wendy Williams at Wimmera Health Care Group on ph. 5381 9333.

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Chris Scott  
Chief Executive  
Ph. 5381 9200