

ATMS Modality:

Chinese Herbal Medicine

Definition of Treatment

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) originated in ancient China and evolved over thousands of years. It is a complete medical system that has been used to diagnose, treat, and prevent illness. Underlying the practice of TCM is a unique view of the world and the human body. This view is based on the ancient Chinese perception of humans as microcosms of a larger, surrounding universe (macrocosm) and their interconnectness with nature and therefore subject to its forces. What happens to one part of the body affects every other part of the body. The mind and body are not viewed separately, but as part of an energetic system. Similarly our viscera are viewed as interconnected structures (organs) that work together to keep the body functioning in balance and harmony. Traditional Chinese Medicine is distinctly different to Western Medicine, as many of the concepts emphasised in TCM have no true counterpart in Western Medicine.



The assessment must include the development of a specific treatment plan as to the best course of treatment for the patient's condition/injury. This treatment plan forms the basis of the clinical notes. These notes must be consistent with the ATMS Code of Conduct, AHPRA requirements and the additional requirements set by the health funds.

Health Fund	Educational Requirements	Provider Number
Australian Health Management	<p>Completion of a recognised course, which consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 150 hours of shiatsu theory and practice 100 hours of Traditional Chinese Medicine theory 100 hours of Health Science, including anatomy and physiology, etiology and pathology 100 hours of supervised clinical training <p>Qualifications completed by correspondence only and/or the clinical training not supervised will not be accepted. If practitioner holds overseas qualifications, they must at least equate to the required Australian qualifications.</p>	<p>Names of eligible ATMS members will be sent to AHM each month. Your ATMS Number will be your provider number, unless you wish to have online claiming. You will then need to contact AHM directly for the new provider number.</p>
Australian Regional Health Group (ARHG) <i>Not all health funds under ARHG cover this modality.</i>	<p>Completed an Australian RTO Advanced Diploma or TEQSA approved Bachelor Degree course in Chinese Herbal Medicine / Traditional Chinese Medicine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must contain at least 200 hours of practical training included in the course before graduation. Distance, online, virtual and other off-campus studies will not be recognised unless the following is completed on campus in face to face mode: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical components of all health science subjects which require skills based knowledge e.g. surface anatomy and palpation Practical components of course modality specific subjects which require skills based knowledge e.g. case taking and clinical examination, assessment of conditions, treatment plans, therapeutics, tactile therapies, massage techniques and other associated therapeutics and techniques. All student clinical practicum hours must be completed at the educational institutions on campus clinic facilities and cannot be outsourced to private clinics. All examinations, tests and assessment of competency to be undertaken and marked by qualified staff on campus Excluding clinical training units which must be completed on campus, at least 50% of remaining course units must be delivered physically on campus in face to face mode. Practitioners who received their training prior to March 2002 will be accepted by ARHG if they can demonstrate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They received (or upgraded) their qualifications in Australia They have been in practice for at least the last four (4) years and They have undertaken CPE, as per the membership requirements of their association, for a minimum four (4) year period. <p>Must hold current practising national registration Does not accept overseas qualifications.</p>	<p>Details of eligible members, including member updates are sent to ARHG by ATMS monthly. The ARHG provider number is based on your ATMS number with additional lettering. To work out your ARHG provider number please follow these steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Add the letters AT to the front of your ATMS member number 2 If your ATMS number has five digits go to step 3. If it has two, three or four digits, you need to add enough zeros to the front to make it a five digit number (e.g. 123 becomes 00123). 3 Add the letter that corresponds to your accredited modality at the end of the provider number; C Chinese Herbal Medicine, If ATMS member 123 is accredited in Chinese Herbal Medicine, the ARHG provider number will be AT00123C.

Chinese Herbal Medicine Health Fund Requirements cont.

Health Fund	Educational Requirements	Provider Number
Australian Unity	Must hold current practising national registration Completed an Australian RTO Advanced Diploma or TEQSA approved Bachelor Degree course.	Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to Australian Unity each month. ATMS members will need to contact Australian Unity on 1800 035 360 to register as a provider, after filling out the Australian Unity Application Form located on the ATMS website to activate their provider status. This only needs to happen the first time. Your ATMS number can be used as your Provider Number, or you can contact Australian Unity for your Australian Unity generated Provider Number.
BUPA	Completed, as a minimum, a 4 year full time or equivalent, Australian Bachelor Degree majoring in Chinese Herbal Medicine. Any educational qualifications substantially attained by distance/online/external mode will not be recognised. For overseas graduates, the qualifications must be at least equivalent to an Australian bachelor degree. All degree programs must conform to the current Australian Guidelines for Traditional Chinese Medicine Education, especially with regard to curriculum content, overall duration of the course, mode of delivery, and extent of supervised clinical practice. Must also be independently validated and assessed by VETASSESS or by the relevant Overseas Qualifications Unit (OQU). Applicants who completed their studies in a non-English language must supply evidence of their fluency in English. BUPA requires an IELTS Overall Band 6 or equivalent as evidence of this. Must also hold current practicing national registration.	Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to BUPA on a weekly basis. BUPA will generate a Provider Number after receiving the list of eligible practitioners. BUPA advises ATMS of your Provider Number and ATMS will then advise those members directly.
CBHS Health Fund	Meets ATMS requirements.	Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to CBHS each month. Your ATMS number will be your Provider Number.
Grand United	Practitioners need to apply directly and can contact health fund on 1800 249 966.	
HCF	Completion of an Australian Bachelor Degree majoring in Chinese Herbal Medicine. If practitioner holds overseas bachelor qualifications, they must at least equate to the required Australian bachelor degree qualifications including overall duration of the programme, content, and clinical practice. The course has not been substantially delivered via distance/external/on-line mode AND includes an appropriate level of supervised clinical practice Must also hold current practicing national registration.	Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to HCF on a weekly basis. Your ATMS number will be your Provider Number.
Medibank Private	Completed a 3.5 to 4 year full time or equivalent, university of government accredited Advanced Diploma or a Bachelor of in Chinese Herbal Medicine or a 4 to 5 year full-time or equivalent, university or government accredited dual modality Advanced Diploma or Bachelor in Traditional Chinese Medicine (majoring in both Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine) which as a minimum, consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% Western Health Sciences • 30% Chinese Herbal Medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine theory • 30% Supervised Clinical Training Qualifications completed by correspondence only and/or the clinical training not supervised will not be accepted. If practitioner holds overseas qualifications, they must at least equate to the required Australian qualifications.	Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to Medibank Private on a monthly basis. Medibank Private generates Provider Numbers after receiving the list of eligible practitioners from ATMS. Medibank Private sends these provider numbers directly to your clinic address/es.

Chinese Herbal Medicine Health Fund Requirements cont.

Health Fund	Educational Requirements	Provider Number
NIB	<p>Completion of a RTO Advanced Diploma of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Bachelor of Applied Science (Chinese Medicine); Health Science (Chinese Medicine) or Chinese Medicine (Acupuncture & Herbs) or Master of Applied Science (Chinese Herbal Medicine)</p> <p>Must hold current practising national registration</p> <p><i>Chinese Herbalism consultations can be claimed by eligible nib members - however supplements, medication, herbs etc cannot be claimed.</i></p>	<p>Names and details of eligible ATMS members will be sent to NIB on a weekly basis. Your ATMS Number will be your provider number, unless your client wishes to claim online. Your client will need to contact NIB directly or search by your surname and postcode on the NIB website www.nib.com.au for your provider number for online claiming purposes.</p>