

e-Mental health and depression



What the fact sheet covers:

- What are e-mental health programs?
- Benefits of e-mental health programs
- Do you need a referral?
- How much will it cost?
- Top tips to remember

Top tips for working with e-mental health

1. Register soon.
2. Choose a regular time and day to log onto the program and to do the homework.
3. Choose a time and space where you will not be interrupted and you will be able to concentrate.
4. Take advantage of the downloadable sections of the program so you can easily revise the things you have learnt.
5. Don't forget to do the homework exercises – they are an important way to make the lessons "stick".
6. Check in now and again with your GP/psychologist to discuss your progress.

7. Keep an eye on what works for you and what doesn't – and tell your GP/Psychologist – it's helpful for them to know too.

What are e-mental health programs?

e-Mental health programs are online mental health treatment and support options for people experiencing mild to moderate depression or anxiety. The programs recommended in this fact sheet have been researched, developed and tested in Australia.

Benefits of e-mental health programs

e-Mental health programs have been proven effective in the treatment and management of mild to moderate depression and anxiety. Some e-mental health programs also provide print outs and reports which you can look back on, or use to discuss with your GP or mental health professional.

What personal information do I have to provide?

Most e-Mental health programs are anonymous. Some programs require an email address so that materials can be sent to you.

Do I need a referral to access e-mental health programs?

Most e-Mental health programs do not need a referral. For those that do, a referral can be obtained from your GP or other mental health professional.

Can I do an e-mental health program instead of visiting a mental health professional?

e-Mental health programs can be used as selfhelp resources or in conjunction with the work you are doing with your GP, psychologist or counsellor.

Are e-mental health programs right for me?

e-Mental health programs are for anyone, of any age, living in any part of Australia, at any stage of treatment for mild to moderate depression or anxiety.

Why access e-mental health programs?

e-Mental Health can fill the gap in services where face-to-face therapy is not available or accessible, or can be used in conjunction with face-to-face therapy by providing a supplementary level of support. There are a variety of different programs to suit different people. They can be accessed at any time of

the day providing information and skills when required by the user. They are also a beneficial starting point for those who are not quite ready to speak to someone face-to-face.

How long do e-mental health programs take?

e-Mental health programs can be progressed through at a speed that is comfortable for you.

How much will it cost?

Most e-mental health programs are free of charge. Some offer a free trial version with a minimal cost charged to access the full program.

What computer skills will I need?

e-Mental health programs are easy to access and simple to use. Most require no particular expertise.

Where to get more information

Mind Health Connect

Service Connect Line is a free telephone service that links people with a mental illness residing in the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network to psychosocial support services (mental and physical health as well as social supports).

Visit: mindhealth.org.au/serviceconnectline/

Beacon ANU

Beacon is your portal to online applications for mental and physical disorders. A panel of health experts categorise, review and rate websites and mobile applications. These ratings are provided to you along with the site link and access information.

Visit: www.beacon.anu.edu.au



For more information

Visit our website blackdoginstitute.org.au
Find us on social media @blackdoginst



e-Mental Health Treatment Programs

myCompass | mycompass.org.au

myCompass is an interactive self-help service that aims to promote resilience and wellbeing for all Australians.

MoodGYM | moodgym.anu.edu.au

MoodGYM is a free self-help program to teach CBT skills to people vulnerable to depression and anxiety.

e-couch | ecouch.anu.edu.au

e-couch is a CBT and IPT based self-help interactive program with modules for depression, GAD & worry, social anxiety, relationship breakdown, and loss and grief.

THIS WAY UP | thiswayup.org.au

Using CBT principles, THIS WAY UP Clinic offers proven online courses for Depression, GAD, and Anxiety.

OnTrack | ontrack.org.au

OnTrack offers free access to online programs, information, quizzes and advice to support the Australian community in achieving mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Mental Health Online | mentalhealthonline.org.au

Mental Health Online offers self-guided or therapist assistant programs for panic disorder, social anxiety disorder, GAD, OCD, PTSD, depression and insomnia.

MindSpot | mindspot.org.au

MindSpot combines educational and practical exercises with regular contact with a MindSpot therapist, allowing help to be obtained in a discreet, effective way.

Resources for Young People

BITE BACK | biteback.org.au

BITE BACK is an ever-changing space which aims to improve the wellbeing and mental fitness of 12-18 year olds, based on the principles of positive psychology.

eHeadspace | eheadspace.org.au

eHeadspace is a confidential, free, anonymous, secure space where 15-25 year olds can chat, email or speak with qualified youth mental health professionals.

ReachOut | reachout.com

ReachOut is a mental health website for people under 25.

Youth Beyond Blue | youthbeyondblue.com

Youth Beyond Blue provides mental health education and links to phone support for 12-25 year olds.

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