

EARLYCARE INFORMATION SHEET

What is EarlyCare?

EarlyCare is a program that assists young people who are at risk of Psychosis by providing screening and assessment to 12-25 year olds who are experiencing emotional and psychological distress. The aim of the program is to make the possibility of getting assessment and support – early and with ease.

How Does EarlyCare work?

EarlyCare has two complimentary streams:

Stream 1 – Allows for families and adolescents/young adults to receive an assessment, which thoroughly reviews early signs and symptoms of psychosis. This psychosocial strengths based assessment will review familial factors, history and current presenting issues to better assist the young person. Individual clients will receive a report, which make recommendations for support based on the Stepped Care Model of support.

Stream 2 – Allows for schools to receive support to identify and assist its students that have emerging mental health concerns, including early signs of psychosis. School students who are considered ‘at risk’ by the school can receive an assessment as outlined above. EarlyCare also screens younger cohorts of 12-15 year olds to identify students with psychosocial and/or clinical risks who would benefit from more thorough assessment and support.

What Does EarlyCare Cost?

This funded service delivers assessments and screening at no cost to the clients or schools. There is no waiting list and anyone can initiate a referral of clients aged 12-25 years and any school can be involved.

Where is it located?

EarlyCare is based in the Western, Metropolitan and Northern suburbs of Melbourne. We run individual services out of Sunshine and East Melbourne and provide telehealth for all other areas. EarlyCare will travel to schools to conduct screening in schools.

How can I get more information or make a referral?

To make a referral or get more information, please call Victorian Counselling and Psychological Service on 9419 7172.