



# SOUVENAID® AND FORTISIP HOME CARE PACKAGES

Souvenaid and Fortisip are included and can be funded as part of a patient Home Care Package if aligned with the patients identified needs and preferences and when prescribed by a treating healthcare professional.

Souvenaid is a Food for Special Medical Purposes classed under Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) Standard 2.9.5. Souvenaid® is prescribed by a health care professional for the dietary management of early Alzheimer's disease including mild cognitive impairment and must be used under medical supervision.

The Fortisip range are a ready-to-drink, high energy, oral nutritional supplements for the dietary management of disease-related malnutrition. The Fortisip range are foods for special medical purposes for use under medical supervision.

Below is extracted from 'Home Care Packages inclusions and exclusion- FAQ for providers, April' 2023

## Can vitamins and nutrition supplements be covered?

It is important to distinguish between:

- Vitamins and supplements classified as medicines (such as fish oil, fibre powder and magnesium) under the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG), which are excluded, and
- Vitamins and supplements categorised as specialised foods (such as **Fortisip** and **Souvenaid**) under Food Standards Code 2.9.3 and 2.9.5, of which some are included.

Figure 1: Home Care Packages Program inclusions and exclusions - FAQ for providers version 1 (Department of Health and Aged Care, April 2023)

## In what circumstances are specialised foods covered under HCP? Does this include food supplements?

- Specialised foods listed under Food Standards 2.9.5 - food for special medical purposes or formulations listed under 2.9.3 - formulated supplementary food, that are prescribed by a treating health professional, are inclusions of the program.
- For more information see Food Standards Code 2.9.5 food for special medical purposes and 2.9.3 formulated supplementary food.
- These products are designed to address situations where the intake of energy and nutrients may not be adequate to meet an individual's requirements and are intended for the dietary management of a disease, disorder or medical condition that cannot be achieved without the use of the item.
- By law these products must be prescribed by a health professional operating within their scope of practice and must only be consumed under medical supervision.
- For the HCP Program, it is expected that these specialised foods would be used to support age-related conditions, such as dysphagia, cognitive impairment, disease related malnutrition or those at risk of malnutrition.

Figure 2: Home Care Packages Program inclusions and exclusions - FAQ for providers version 1 (Department of Health and Aged Care, April 2023)

Reference: 1 - Australian Government- Department of Health and Aged Care 2023 (26 Feb 2024) Available from: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/home-care-packages-program-inclusions-and-exclusions-faqs-for-providers-version-1?language=en> Home Care Packages Program Inclusions and Exclusions - FAQs for Providers - version 1