“Under the Better Access program, nearly one million Australians now have a GP Mental Health Plan and have collectively received about three million sessions of psychological service.”

2009 (Feb) *Medical Journal of Australia*

“In setting up the Better Access Program, the Department of Health and Ageing estimated forward expenditure on the Program of $538m over 4 years. The cost over this period is in fact now approaching $1.4bn.”

2010 (Dec) *Australasian Psychiatry*

“Mr Rosenberg and Professor Hickie calculated the program's rising costs to 2016, in which it will exceed $1 billion a year.”

2011 (Mar) *Sydney Morning Herald*

“We do not have enough data to verify whether the existing $10 million per week being spent on the Better Access program represents good value.”

2012 (Feb) *Crikey*

“The review considers the Commonwealth’s Better Access Program which is now costing more than $12 million per week and growing.”

2015 (Apr) *Sydney Morning Herald*

“Ten years of one-sided criticism about the costs of mental health care

Access to basic mental health care is an investment not a cost

“Medicare data indicates the Federal Government is investing around $15 million each week on Better Access, which aims to improve community access to mental health professionals and team-based mental health care.”

2017 (Summer) *The Australian Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation*

“$9 million pales in comparison to spending on the Better Access Program, which I have calculated to be $15 million each week.”

2017 (May) *The Conversation*

“[Sebastian Rosenberg] questions why we continue to invest $22 million each week in Medicare payments under the Better Access program without evaluating its effectiveness.”

2018 (Dec) *Inside Story*

“In 2014-15, Medicare spending on psychology services was $474.5m, or $9.1m each week.”

2018 (Feb) *Crikey*

“At the same time, we are willing to continue to invest $22m a week in MBS payments under the Better Access Program, without any outcomes or accountability.”

2018 (Nov) *Crikey*

“As it is, the Better Access Program is costing $22.5 million every week, or $28 million if you include out of pocket costs.”

2019 (Feb) *Crikey*