

# Budget 2024–25: New and amended Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) listings

Through the 2024–25 Budget, an investment of \$123.2 million will enable the introduction of new services and amendments to existing services on the MBS. This is in response to government policy initiatives and recommendations from the independent Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC), the MBS Review Advisory Committee (MRAC) and the clinician led MBS Review Taskforce.

The department will continue to work with stakeholders on the implementation of the changes and more detailed information for patients and providers will be made available, closer to the date of effect, at MBSonline.gov.au and [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au).

## Primary Care

Date of effect Item Number	Description
1 July 2024 (Items 92715–92726 and 92731–92742)	Amend temporary GP Blood Borne Virus and Sexual Reproductive Health telehealth items that expire on 30 June 2024 to become permanent.
1 July 2024	Some amendments to the exemptions to the GP established relationship criteria as of 30 June 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary exemption for Mental Health items will become permanent.</li> <li>• Temporary exemption for permanent Non-Directive Pregnancy Counselling items will expire.</li> </ul>
1 November 2024	Expand ultrasound imaging requesting rights for nurse practitioners to support their ability to prescribe the MS-2 Step medical abortion program through adequate before and after care.
1 March 2025 82205	Introduce two new general attendance MBS items of at least 60 minutes (Level E) for face to face and video attendances with a nurse practitioner. Amending item 82205 to include a 6 minute minimum duration of attendance to ensure high quality care.
1 March 2025 82100 82105 82110 82130 82135 82140	Implement recommendations from the MBS Review Taskforce Primary Care – Participating Midwives Report, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- amending the antenatal and postnatal attendance items to appropriately reflect the time care takes</li> <li>- the introduction of a new item for long attendance of at least 90 minutes for both the antenatal and postnatal period</li> <li>- the creation of a new item for complex antenatal attendance leading to hospital admission</li> <li>- the inclusion of mandatory clinical activities and an increase in the minimum time for a 6 week postnatal attendance.</li> </ul>

Date of effect Item Number	Description
1 March 2025	<p>Implement the majority of recommendations from the MBS Review Taskforce Optometry Report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- expanding access to optometry services for vulnerable groups in domiciliary (home) settings</li> <li>- amending and updating the wording of existing items to reflect contemporary practice</li> <li>- providing additional guidance on the performance of computerised perimetry testing in both the item descriptor and explanatory note to provide clarity to providers</li> <li>- implementing a new item for a third visual field test in a 12-month period for patients with a high risk of glaucoma progression.</li> </ul>

## Specialists and Consultant Physicians

Date of effect Item Number	Description
1 November 2024	Introduce MBS telehealth items enabling admission of patients to a psychiatric facility and some subsequent in-patient consultations by video.
1 November 2024 90300	Amend item 90300 to enable a cardiothoracic (CT) surgeon to provide a backup standby service for possible rescue surgical intervention during low and intermediate surgical risk Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) procedures performed by a non-cardiothoracic surgeon.
1 November 2024 35401	Amend vertebroplasty item 35401 to allow additional appropriately trained clinicians to provide the MBS service.
1 November 2024 32135 32139	Amend item 32139 to allow for the operative treatment of all degrees of symptomatic haemorrhoids (not just third and fourth degree haemorrhoids) and amend item 32135 to clarify that topical energy therapies are a non-operative treatment for haemorrhoids claimable under the item.
1 November 2024 22002	Amend anaesthesia item 22002 allowing intraoperative cell salvage (blood collection) and transfusion services.
1 March 2025	Remove the 85% 'out of hospital' rebate level, while retaining the 75% 'in hospital' rebate level, from surgical operations services which are necessarily provided in a hospital or hospital equivalent setting. These changes will include items that cover the majority of the procedural specialities who access MBS categories 3, 4 and 5.
1 July 2025	Introduce two new items to enable a gynaecologist to have 45 minute or longer consultations with patients who have complex conditions, such as suspected endometriosis.

Date of effect Item Number	Description
1 July 2025	<p>Implement the majority of recommendations for changes to MBS items from the MBS Review Taskforce Ophthalmology report, along with other minor changes to MBS items that relate to the eye and associated anatomy.</p> <p>This includes reforming intravitreal eye injections to improve patient access, benefitting patients through the addition of services to the MBS for the treatment of glaucoma, removing redundant services from the MBS, and introducing co-claiming restrictions for items that are considered clinically inappropriate to be claimed together.</p>

## Pathology and Diagnostic Imaging

Date of effect Item	Description
1 July 2024 61470 61477	Extend availability and increase the schedule fee for two temporary nuclear medicine items to continue to support the additional cost of the radiopharmaceuticals, thallium-201 and gallium-67, in a range of imaging services.
1 November 2024	Expand ultrasound imaging requesting rights for nurse practitioners to support their ability to prescribe the MS-2 Step medical abortion program through adequate before and after care.
1 November 2024	Introduce new tests for Brain Natriuretic Peptide (BNP) or N-Terminal-pro Brain Natriuretic Peptide (NT-proBNP) to aid in the diagnosis of patients with suspected heart failure in a non-hospital setting.
1 November 2024	Introduce point of care testing for detection of neisseria gonorrhoea, chlamydia trachomatis and trichomonas vaginalis to providers located within remote (MM 6) and very remote (MM 7) communities.
1 November 2024	Introduce a new item for follow up PET/CT imaging for the assessment of treatment response and recurrence for patients with eligible rare cancer types.
1 November 2024 73420 73421	Increase the fee for MBS item 73420 for Rhesus D non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) of non-alloimmunised patients and amend item 73421 to include patients expecting more than one child.
1 November 2024 73441	Amend item 73441 for genetic testing for childhood hearing loss to clarify policy intent and allow patients with unilateral hearing loss to access testing.
1 November 2024 73451	Amend item 73451 for reproductive carrier testing for cystic fibrosis, spinal muscular atrophy and fragile X syndrome to clarify policy intent and mitigate inappropriate co-claiming.

Date of effect	Description
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1 November 2024 73429	Amend item 73429 for somatic gene panel testing for the diagnosis and classification of gliomas to clarify policy intent and remove the specification of test methodologies.
1 November 2024 73343	Amend item 73343 for 17p deletion testing of patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) or small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) to remove the specification of test methodologies.
1 November 2024 73422 73424 73434	Amend items, 73422, 73424 and 73434 to clarify policy intent and specify the purposes of particular types of genetic testing for various neuromuscular conditions.
1 November 2024 63476	Amend existing MRI item 63476 to include its use for the restaging and follow up of rectal cancer.