



MBS Review Advisory Committee

Communique – Meeting 11

The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review Advisory Committee (MRAC) is an independent, clinician and consumer-led, non-statutory committee established to advise government on publicly funded services listed on the MBS. The committee supports the MBS Continuous Review to ensure the MBS is contemporary, sustainable, evidence based and supports universal access to high value care for all Australians.

MRAC Reviews

MRAC working groups may be established to conduct reviews and typically consist of a subset of MRAC members and external subject matter experts as required.

Findings and recommendations from MRAC working groups are subject to extensive consultation processes prior to MRAC consideration, finalisation, and submission to Government.

Updates on completed reviews

Final reports on the **Post-implementation Review of Telehealth** and **Post-implementation Review of Colonoscopy** have been endorsed by the MRAC and provided to the Minister for government consideration. The final reports from these reviews are available on the [MRAC webpage](#).

How MRAC consults on reviews

The MRAC values the diverse perspectives, experience, and knowledge of stakeholders when undertaking reviews. Throughout the course of a review, the committee will engage with stakeholders through difference types of consultation. Generally, reviews will include both targeted and public consultations process, however some reviews may only include one process. For some reviews, the MRAC will establish a working group to lead the review and consultation process. Non-MRAC members may be appointed to working groups to ensure that there is relevant expertise to support the review process.

Targeted consultation

This involves seeking input and feedback from stakeholders, who have an interest in the review topic, on a draft report or specific review elements or questions. Stakeholders may include, for example:

- Peak bodies, such a non-government organisations, professional bodies, and industry organisations
- Medical and health practitioner colleges
- State and territory governments



- Consumer representative organisations
- Individuals or organisations who have relevant expertise or have expressed a specific interest in the review

Public consultation

All draft final reports are made available on the department's Consultation Hub for a six-week public consultation process.

All closed and open reviews for public consultation can be found at the following link: [Consultation Hub](#).

MRAC Meeting 11 Outcomes – 28-29 May 2024

The committee meets quarterly, and most recently held its eleventh meeting on the land of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples on 28 and 29 May 2024.

Current reviews

Post-implementation review of changes to electrocardiogram (ECG) MBS items

The ECG Working Group was established to conduct a post-implementation review of the 1 August 2020 changes to ECG items. These changes were recommended by the MBS Review Taskforce and intended to promote high value care and address inadvertent misuse of MBS items.

The committee endorsed the ECG Working Group Draft Report to undergo a six-week public consultation process which commenced on 13 June 2024 and concludes on 25 July 2024.

Following consideration of feedback received through this public consultation process, the committee's final report will be provided to Government for consideration.

Review of Vascular Interventional Radiology items

The Vascular Interventional Radiology (VIR) Working Group was established to conduct a review of Vascular Interventional Radiology items. The Department referred this review to the committee following the MBS Review Taskforce review of vascular items, and further consultation with the sector.

The VIR Working Group has held six meetings, with the most recent meeting held on 23 May 2024, with the next scheduled in August 2024. The Working Group will then develop its Findings Report for consideration by the Committee at its August Meeting.

Following endorsement by the committee, the Findings Report, it will undergo targeted consultation in late 2024, with the final report to be completed in early 2025.

Review of Sport and Exercise Physicians' Classification and access under the MBS



The committee commenced a review of sport and exercise physicians' access to consultant physician-equivalent MBS item numbers at its 14 November 2023 meeting.

The Department of Health and Aged Care referred this review to the committee following consideration of a review proposal from the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians seeking access to consultant physician equivalent consultation MBS items.

Following feedback from the committee, public consultation on this review commenced on 24 June 2024 and concludes on 5 August 2024

Next meeting

The MRAC will meet next on 20 August 2024