

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2024 1:06 PM
To: s22
Subject: FW: Seeking feedback on proposed changes to Cardiothoracic Surgery items [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Kind regards
s22

Assistant Director
MBS Clinical Policy Section
P: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
MBS Policy & Reviews
Medicare Benefits & Digital Health
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 8:28 AM
To: s47F (Health) s47F @sa.gov.au; ANZSCTS s47F @anzscts.org; s47F ANZSCTS <s47F @svha.org.au>
Cc: s22 @health.gov.au; Cardiac Services <cardiacservices@health.gov.au>; MBS Clinical Policy <MBSClinicalPolicy@health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Seeking feedback on proposed changes to Cardiothoracic Surgery items [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi All,

I will add the suggested change to clause (a) as suggested for 38513.

Regards
s22

From: s47F (Health) s47F @sa.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 12 January 2022 6:54 PM
To: ANZSCTS s47F @anzscts.org; s47F ANZSCTS s47F @svha.org.au
Cc: s22 @health.gov.au
Subject: Re: Seeking feedback on proposed changes to Cardiothoracic Surgery items [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Thanks s22

These are the changes I discussed with s22 following our webinar and other feedback

My only comment would be re 38513

Part a. proposed change should also say 'billable once per case' or something similar.

Otherwise very happy

I have copied s22 into this response – Thanks s22

Thanks

s47F

s47F

s47F

T:
F:
M:

s47F



Flinders
UNIVERSITY

College of Medicine
& Public Health



Health

Southern Adelaide
Local Health Network



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From: ANZSCTS s47F <[redacted]@anzscts.org>
Date: Monday, 10 January 2022 at 1:44 pm
To: s47F (Health)" s47F <[redacted]@sa.gov.au>, s47F ANZSCTS
 s47F <[redacted]@svha.org.au>
Subject: FW: Seeking feedback on proposed changes to Cardiothoracic Surgery items [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear s47F

All the best for 2022.

Refer below.

s22 now seeking feedback/confirmation of the proposed changes that will be put forward to the Govt?

Please let me know by 28 January or earlier

regards

From: Cardiac Services <cardiacservices@health.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 10 January 2022 1:42 PM
To: Cardiac Services <cardiacservices@health.gov.au>, s47F @ama.com.au s47F @pha.org.au;
 admin@pha.org.au1 <admin@pha.org.au>, s47F @apha.org.au; info@apha.org.au;
 s47F @ozemail.com.au; s47F @ramsayhealth.com.au; s47F @membershealth.com.au;
 info@membershealth.com.au; s47F @cha.org.au; s47F @dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au;
 s47F @hambs.com.au; admin@hambs.com.au; s47F @ahsa.com.au; assistance@ahsa.com.au; ANZSCTS s47F
 s47F @anzscts.org; reception.desk@surgeons.org; college.act@surgeons.org; s47F
 s47F @anzsvs.org.au>
Cc: Private Health Industry Branch <PHI@health.gov.au>; MBS Clinical Policy <MBSClinicalPolicy@health.gov.au>;
 Cardiac Services <cardiacservices@health.gov.au>
Subject: Seeking feedback on proposed changes to Cardiothoracic Surgery items [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear stakeholder

Re: Proposed changes to the Cardiothoracic Surgery items to be put forward to Government for consideration.

The Department of Health has received feedback from the relevant peak surgical Societies regarding some minor unintended consequences in the following speciality:

Cardiothoracic Surgery items (implemented 1 July 2021)

In order to inform consideration by Government, the Department is seeking input on the proposed changes outlined in red:

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
MBS item number 38513	

Creation of Y-graft, T-graft and graft-to-graft extensions , with micro-arterial or micro-venous anastomosis using microsurgical techniques⁷ if:

- a) the service is for one or more anastomoses; and
- b) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies

(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

Fee: \$1,040.55

This purpose of this proposed change is to clarify that item 38513 is to only be claimed once in the same occasion of service.

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
<p>MBS item number 385XX</p> <p>Artery harvesting (other than internal mammary), for coronary artery bypass if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) for the harvesting of additional artery conduit; and b) the harvesting is not conducted by the primary surgeon or surgical assistant <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$633.95</p>	

This proposed new service is for a provider (other than the primary surgeon or surgical assistant) that harvests additional arterial conduits e.g. radial artery during coronary artery bypass grafting.

For items 38516 and 38517 the purpose of the proposed change is a redistribution of fees to reflect the complexity and time differences between a simple and complex valve repair.

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
<p>MBS item number 38516</p> <p>Simple valve repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) with or without annuloplasty; and (b) including quadrangular resection, cleft closure or alferi; and (c) including retrograde cardioplegia (if performed); <p>other than a service associated with a service to which item 11704, 11705, 11707, 11714, 18260, 33824, 38418, 38806 or 45503 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist)</p> <p>Fee: \$2600.00 (proposed new fee)</p>	

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
<p>MBS item number 38517</p> <p>Complex valve repair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) with or without annuloplasty; and (b) including retrograde cardioplegia (if performed); and (c) including one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) neochoords; (ii) chordal transfer; (iii) patch augmentation; (iv) multiple leaflets; <p>other than a service associated with a service to which item 11704, 11705, 11707, 11714, 18260, 33824, 38418, 38806 or 45503 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist)</p>	

Fee: \$3,200.00 (proposed new fee)

For items 38555 and 38557 the purpose of the proposed change is a redistribution of fees to reflect the complexity and time differences between simple and complex aortic arch repair or replacement.

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
<p>MBS item number 38555</p> <p>Simple replacement or repair of aortic arch, performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38550, 38553, 38554, 38556, 38568 or 38571 applies, including:</p> <p>(a) deep hypothermic circulatory arrest; and</p> <p>(b) peripheral cannulation for cardiopulmonary bypass; and</p> <p>(c) antegrade or retrograde cerebral perfusion (if performed);</p> <p>other than a service associated with a service to which item 11704, 11705, 11707, 11714, 18260, 33824, 38418, 38603, 38806 or 45503 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$2,600.00 (proposed new fee)</p>	

Category 3 – Therapeutic Procedures	Group 6 – Cardiothoracic
<p>MBS item number 38557</p> <p>Complex replacement or repair of aortic arch, performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38550, 38553, 38554, 38556, 38568 or 38571 applies, including:</p> <p>(a) debranching and reimplantation of head and neck vessels; and</p> <p>(b) deep hypothermic circulatory arrest; and</p> <p>(c) peripheral cannulation for cardiopulmonary bypass; and</p> <p>(d) antegrade or retrograde cerebral perfusion (if performed);</p> <p>other than a service associated with a service to which item 11704, 11705, 11707, 11714, 18260, 33824, 38418, 38806 or 45503 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$4,500.00 (proposed new fee)</p>	

The Department is seeking feedback from your organisation on the proposed changes to the items to ensure that it meets the clinical requirements of the service and to avoid any unintended consequences for patients, providers, hospitals or insurers. Please provide any feedback you have to MBSClinicalPolicy@health.gov.au by no later than 1 February 2022.

Kind regards
s22

Cardiac and Vascular Services
Assistant Director
MBS Clinical Policy Section
P: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
MBS Reviews Unit
Medical Benefits Division
Australian Government Department of Health

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THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (CTH)
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2024 1:03 PM
To: s22
Subject: FW: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Cardiac Surgery item descriptors budget 22-23.docx

Kind regards

s22

Assistant Director
 MBS Clinical Policy Section
 P: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
MBS Policy & Reviews
 Medicare Benefits & Digital Health
 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

From: s47F @sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:03 PM
To: s22 @health.gov.au>; 'ANZSCTS s47F @anzscts.org>; s47F s47F @svha.org.au>
Cc: s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s22

I have attached Word doc with some suggestions

Re text below – have added my thoughts in red

Enjoy the break

Cheers

s47F

As discussed. Please provide comment on the descriptors in the attachment.

For the following: can you provide your suggested fees for each item to reflect your comments (fix the imbalances to incentivise advanced skills and time spent):

MV Repair codes

As discussed, my concern here is the combination of Annuloplasty into the repair codes may relatively undervalue the procedure compared to MV Replacement.

38516 – Simple Repair	\$2509.25	2600.00
38517 – Complex Repair	\$3055.85, versus	3200.00

38499 – MVR	\$2112.20	
38490 – Sub valve resusp	\$577.00	(MPR = ~\$279.00) – Total \$2391.20

This provides stepwise increase from base (MVR 2112.00) to simple repair then complex repair and would reflect the same increase in technical skill, difficulty, and time for these procedures.

There is a small step to simple repair from replacement, yet different skill sets and usually a significant increase in time and effort. Best practice should incentivise Repair. The step from simple to complex is reasonable.

Aortic Arch Surgery

38555 – Simple Arch	\$3374.00	2600.00
38557 – Complex Arch	\$3894.30	4500.00

As discussed, the step from Simple to Complex arch is imbalanced
Simple arch is basically a bevelled anastomosis across the proximal arch under Deep Hypothermic Circulatory arrest. Complex Arch is Axillary artery and femoral artery cannulation, Hypothermic Arrest, Debranch head and neck vessels and re-anastomose, plus arch and proximal anastomoses, with reconnection of the debranched arch inflow. Clearly a different operation, which usually takes 6 – 8 hours at most centres.

I would suggest Simple is “overs” and Complex is “unders” and could be easily realigned.

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s47F



s47F



T: s47F |
F:
M:





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From: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
Date: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 at 3:18 pm
To: s47F <[redacted]@sa.gov.au>, 'ANZSCTS' s47F <[redacted]@anzscts.org>, s47F <[redacted]@svha.org.au>
Cc: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s47F

I am off until next Friday. If you could reply all and s22 in my team will progress your advice so we can do costings for the item descriptors and the outstanding queries ANZSCTS has on the valve price relativities. No problems though if you need to ring me for anything.

Kind regards
 s22

Cardiac and Vascular Services
 Assistant Director
 Clinical Committee Support and Implementation
 P: 02 6289s22 E: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
MBS Reviews Unit
 Medical Benefits Division
 Australian Government Department of Health

From: s47F <[redacted]@sa.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 9:01 AM

To: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>; 'ANZSCTS' s47F <[redacted]@anzscts.org>; s47F <[redacted]@svha.org.au>

Subject: Re: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Thanks s22

Your efforts to turn these around is appreciated
Especially 519 and 643

Cheers

s47F

s47F

s47F

T:
F:
M:

s47F



Flinders
UNIVERSITY

College of Medicine
& Public Health



Health
Southern Adelaide
Local Health Network



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From: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>

Date: Monday, 13 December 2021 at 4:16 pm

To: 'ANZSCTS' <[redacted]@anzscts.org>, s47F <[redacted]@health.gov.au> (Health)"
s47F <[redacted]@sa.gov.au>, s47F <[redacted]@svha.org.au>

Subject: FW: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Kind regards

s22

Cardiac and Vascular Services
Assistant Director
Clinical Committee Support and Implementation
P: 02 6289s22 E: s22 <[redacted]@health.gov.au>

MBS Reviews Unit

Medical Benefits Division
Australian Government Department of Health

From: MBS Clinical Policy <MBSClinicalPolicy@health.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 13 December 2021 4:44 PM

To: s47F <[redacted]@ama.com.au> s47F <[redacted]@ama.com.au>; s47F <[redacted]@pha.org.au> s47F <[redacted]@pha.org.au>;
s47F <[redacted]@apha.org.au> info@apha.org.au; s47F <[redacted]@ozemail.com.au>
s47F <[redacted]@ozemail.com.au>; s47F <[redacted]@ramsayhealth.com.au>
s47F <[redacted]@ramsayhealth.com.au>; 'info@membershealth.com.au' <info@membershealth.com.au>;
s47F <[redacted]@cha.org.au> s47F <[redacted]@cha.org.au>; s47F <[redacted]@dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au>
s47F <[redacted]@dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au>; s47F <[redacted]@hambs.com.au> 'admin@hambs.com.au'
<admin@hambs.com.au>; s47F <[redacted]@ahsa.com.au> s47F <[redacted]@ahsa.com.au>; 'assistance@ahsa.com.au'
<assistance@ahsa.com.au>; 'consultations@ama.com.au' <consultations@ama.com.au>;
s47F <[redacted]@sydney.edu.au> s47F <[redacted]@sydney.edu.au>; info@csanz.edu.au; 'racgp@org.au' <racgp@org.au>;
'info@anzscts.org' <info@anzscts.org>; s47F <[redacted]@anzscts.org> s47F <[redacted]@anzscts.org>;

s47F @svha.org.au' s47F @svha.org.au'; s47F @sa.gov.au'
 s47F @sa.gov.au'; president@acrrm.org.au; info@chf.org.au; 'companysecretary@racp.edu.au'
 <companysecretary@racp.edu.au>; racp@racp.edu.au; ceo@rdaa.com.au; college.sec@surgeons.org;
college.president@surgeons.org; 'R.A.C.S@surgeons.org' <R.A.C.S@surgeons.org>
 Cc: AskMBS Internal Queries <AskMBS.internal@health.gov.au>; Private Health Industry Branch
 <PHI@health.gov.au>; MBS Clinical Policy <MBSClinicalPolicy@health.gov.au>
 Subject: Item mapping MBS Changes ~ 1 Jan and 1 March 2022 MYEFO announcement - Media release 13 Dec 2021
 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Stakeholders

We are writing to provide an update on changes to MBS items following today's media announcement of the Government's agreement as part of the "improving access to the MBS" MYEFO 21/22 budget process. The media release can be found at: [Permanent telehealth to strengthen universal Medicare | Health Portfolio Ministers](#). The changes announced are summarised in the tables below and will be implemented by the team in the MBS Clinical Policy Section. An item mapping document is attached which provides further details on the changes.

Further announcements regarding 1 March 2022 changes are anticipated later in the week and our team will provide an updated summary and mapping document appropriately. Communication materials on the changes, which includes fact sheets and Quick Reference guides, will be made available shortly at: www.mbsonline.gov.au and under the factsheet tab. Any additional questions in relation to these changes please reach out to our team via return email.

Kind regards
 MBS Clinical Policy Team

Changes effective 1 January 2022

Item Number	Summary of Change	Item fee
38358 - Amend	Fee change only (increase)	\$2984.25
90300 - Amend	This item will now only be claimable by a Cardiothoracic Surgeon when providing surgical back-up for an Interventional Cardiologist who is conducting the primary procedure (38358).	\$ 895.25 (unchanged)
38254 - Amend	Descriptor amended to allow services that involve selective coronary angiography preceding percutaneous coronary intervention to be co-claimed with this service (38254)	\$463.50 (unchanged)
38519 - Amend	Descriptor amended to ensure all open cardiac procedures requiring the removal of an existing valve prosthesis prior to the insertion of a new valve are permitted.	\$1,100.00 (unchanged)
38643 - Amend	Descriptor amended to clarify that the service is claimable for any instance where the division of adhesions exceeding 30mins is required.	\$1,567.65 (unchanged)

Changes effective 1 March 2022

Item Number	Summary of Change	Item fee
38276 - Amend	This item provides for a transcatheter closure of the left atrial appendage for stroke prevention. After consideration by MSAC this item has been amended to increase the population eligible to receive this procedure and will include patients with an absolute permanent contraindication to oral anti-coagulant therapy	\$949.25 (unchanged)

	determined by a practitioner independent of the practitioner performing the procedure.	
38495 - Amend	This item provides for transcatheter aortic valve implantation for patients with symptomatic severe aortic stenosis at high risk for open surgical aortic valve replacement, device agnostic.	\$1490.25 (unchanged)
38514 - New item	This item provides for transcatheter aortic valve implantation for patients with symptomatic severe aortic stenosis at intermediate risk for open surgical aortic valve replacement, device agnostic.	\$1490.25 (unchanged)

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Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
38510	<p>Harvesting of an arterial conduit Harvesting of an arterial conduit (other than of the left internal mammary), for coronary artery bypass, if:</p> <p>(a) The arterial harvesting is undertaken by the primary surgeon or surgical assistant; and</p> <p>(b) more than one arterial graft is required; and</p> <p>(c) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies</p> <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$649.25 Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Commented [A/Prof1]: Could probably remove this line as adds little

New	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
385XX	<p>Artery harvesting (other than internal mammary), for coronary artery bypass if:</p> <p>a) for the harvesting of additional artery conduit; and</p> <p>b) the harvesting is not conducted by the primary surgeon or surgical assistant</p> <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Commented [A/Prof2]: Happy
Fee should be the same as previous 38496 code

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
38513	<p>Creation of graft anastomosis, including Y-graft, T-graft and graft-to-graft extensions (for one or more anastomoses), with micro-arterial or micro-venous anastomosis using microsurgical techniques, if:</p> <p>a) the service is not for each distal coronary anastomosis; and</p> <p>b) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies</p> <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Commented [BP3]: s47F: I could also use the words 'the service is for one or more anastomoses' which would cover all anastomoses conducted and only be billable once. Let me know what you think suits.

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
	<p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic

	Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount
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Attachment A

MBS Groups that apply an EMSN Cap

Note – these groups are listed in the Health Insurance (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Determination 2017

An EMSN Cap of 300 per cent of the Schedule fee or \$500.00 (whichever is the lesser amount) applies to items which are listed in the following groups:

Attendance services

- A1 - General practitioner attendances to which no other item applies
- A2 - Other non-referred attendances to which no other item applies
- A3 - Specialist attendances to which no other item applies
- A4 - Consultant physician (other than psychiatry) attendances to which no other item applies
- A5 - Prolonged attendances to which no other item applies
- A6 - Group therapy
- A7 - Acupuncture and non-specialist practitioner items
- A8 - Consultant psychiatrist attendances to which no other item applies
- A9 - Contact lenses
- A10 - Optometrical services
- A11 - Urgent attendances after—hours
- A12 - Consultant occupational physician attendances to which no other item applies
- A13 - Public health physician attendances to which no other item applies
- A14 - Health assessments
- A15 - GP management plans, team care arrangements and multidisciplinary care plans and case conferences
- A17 - Domiciliary and residential medication management reviews
- A18 - Attendances associated with Practice Incentive Program payments
- A19 - Attendances associated with Practice Incentive Program payments
- A20 - Mental health care
- A21 - Professional attendances at recognised emergency departments of private hospitals
- A22 - General practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies
- A23 - Other non-referred after-hours attendances to which no other item applies
- A24 - Palliative and pain medicine
- A26 - Neurosurgery attendances to which no other item applies
- A27 - Pregnancy support counselling
- A28 - Geriatric medicine
- A29 - Early intervention services for children with autism, pervasive developmental disorder or disability
- A30 - Medical practitioner video conferencing consultation
- A31 - Addiction medicine
- A32 - Sexual Health Medicine
- A33 - aortic valve implantation case conference
- A35 - Non-referred attendance at a residential aged care facility

A36 – Eating Disorder Services
A39 – Bushfire Recovery Services
A40 – COVID-19 services
A41 – COVID-19 Additional Focussed Psychological Strategies

Therapeutic procedures

T6 – Examination by anaesthetist

Miscellaneous Services

M3 – Allied Health Services
M6 – Psychological Therapy Services
M7 – Focussed Psychological Strategies (Allied Mental Health)
M8 – Pregnancy support counselling
M9 – Allied health group services
M10 – Autism, pervasive developmental disorder and disability services
M11 – Allied health services for Indigenous Australians who have had a health check
M12 – Services Provided By A Practice Nurse Or Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner On Behalf Of A Medical Practitioner
M14 – Nurse Practitioners
M15 – Diagnostic Audiology Services
M16 – Eating Disorder Services
M17 – Bushfire Recovery Access Initiative - Psychologist Services and Allied Health Focussed Psychological Strategies
M18 – COVID-19 Allied Health Telehealth Services
M19 – COVID-19 Midwife Telehealth Services

Oral and maxillofacial services

O1 – Consultations

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2024 1:02 PM
To: s22
Subject: FW: Cardiac Surgery item descriptors budget 22-23.docx [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Cardiac Surgery item descriptors budget 22-23.docx

Kind regards
s22

Assistant Director
MBS Clinical Policy Section
P: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
MBS Policy & Reviews
Medicare Benefits & Digital Health
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

From: s22
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 2:50 PM
To: s47F sa.gov.au>
Subject: Cardiac Surgery item descriptors budget 22-23.docx [SEC=OFFICIAL]

HI s47F

As discussed. Please provide comment on the descriptors in the attachment.

For the following: can you provide your suggested fees for each item to reflect your comments (fix the imbalances to incentivise advanced skills and time spent):

MV Repair codes

As discussed, my concern here is the combination of Annuloplasty into the repair codes may relatively undervalue the procedure compared to MV Replacement.

38516 – Simple Repair	\$2509.25
38517 – Complex Repair	\$3055.85, versus

38499 – MVR	\$2112.20	
38490 – Sub valve resusp	\$577.00	(MPR = ~\$279.00) – Total \$2391.20

There is a small step to simple repair from replacement, yet different skill sets and usually a significant increase in time and effort. Best practice should incentivise Repair. The step from simple to complex is reasonable.

Aortic Arch Surgery

38555 – Simple Arch	\$3374.00
38557 – Complex Arch	\$3894.30

As discussed, the step from Simple to Complex arch is imbalanced
Simple arch is basically a bevelled anastomosis across the proximal arch under Deep Hypothermic Circulatory arrest.

Complex Arch is Axillary artery and femoral artery cannulation, Hypothermic Arrest, Debranch head and neck vessels and re-anastomose, plus arch and proximal anastomoses, with reconnection of the debranched arch inflow. Clearly a different operation, which usually takes 6 – 8 hours at most centres.

I would suggest Simple is “overs” and Complex is “unders” and could be easily realigned.

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Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
38510	<p>All arterial artery-conduit harvesting (other than of the left internal mammary), for coronary artery bypass, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The arterial harvesting is undertaken by the primary surgeon or surgical assistant; and (b) more than one arterial graft is required; and (c) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$649.25 Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

New	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
385XX	<p>Artery harvesting (other than internal mammary), for coronary artery bypass if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) for the harvesting of additional artery conduit; and b) the harvesting is not conducted by the primary surgeon or surgical assistant <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
38513	<p>Creation of graft anastomosis, including Y-graft, T-graft and graft-to-graft extensions, with micro-arterial or micro-venous anastomosis using microsurgical techniques, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the service is not for each distal coronary anastomosis; and b) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies <p>(H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p> <p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Commented [BP1]: s47F I could also use the words 'the service is for one or more anastomoses' which would cover all anastomoses conducted and only be billable once. Let me know what you think suits.

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
	<p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Amended	Group T8 – Surgical Operations Subgroup 6 – Cardio-thoracic
	<p>Fee: \$ Benefit: 75% Extended Medicare Safety Net Cap (if applicable): Percentage or fixed cap amount</p>

Attachment A**MBS Groups that apply an EMSN Cap**

Note – these groups are listed in the Health Insurance (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Determination 2017

An EMSN Cap of 300 per cent of the Schedule fee or \$500.00 (whichever is the lesser amount) applies to items which are listed in the following groups:

Attendance services

- A1 - General practitioner attendances to which no other item applies
- A2 - Other non-referred attendances to which no other item applies
- A3 - Specialist attendances to which no other item applies
- A4 - Consultant physician (other than psychiatry) attendances to which no other item applies
- A5 - Prolonged attendances to which no other item applies
- A6 - Group therapy
- A7 - Acupuncture and non-specialist practitioner items
- A8 - Consultant psychiatrist attendances to which no other item applies
- A9 - Contact lenses
- A10 - Optometrical services
- A11 - Urgent attendances after—hours
- A12 - Consultant occupational physician attendances to which no other item applies
- A13 - Public health physician attendances to which no other item applies
- A14 - Health assessments
- A15 - GP management plans, team care arrangements and multidisciplinary care plans and case conferences
- A17 - Domiciliary and residential medication management reviews
- A18 - Attendances associated with Practice Incentive Program payments
- A19 - Attendances associated with Practice Incentive Program payments
- A20 - Mental health care
- A21 - Professional attendances at recognised emergency departments of private hospitals
- A22 - General practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies
- A23 - Other non-referred after-hours attendances to which no other item applies
- A24 - Palliative and pain medicine
- A26 - Neurosurgery attendances to which no other item applies
- A27 - Pregnancy support counselling
- A28 - Geriatric medicine
- A29 - Early intervention services for children with autism, pervasive developmental disorder or disability
- A30 - Medical practitioner video conferencing consultation
- A31 - Addiction medicine
- A32 - Sexual Health Medicine
- A33 - aortic valve implantation case conference
- A35 - Non-referred attendance at a residential aged care facility
- A36 - Eating Disorder Services
- A39 - Bushfire Recovery Services
- A40 - COVID-19 services

A41 – COVID-19 Additional Focussed Psychological Strategies

Therapeutic procedures

T6 – Examination by anaesthetist

Miscellaneous Services

M3 – Allied Health Services

M6 – Psychological Therapy Services

M7 – Focussed Psychological Strategies (Allied Mental Health)

M8 – Pregnancy support counselling

M9 – Allied health group services

M10 – Autism, pervasive developmental disorder and disability services

M11 – Allied health services for Indigenous Australians who have had a health check

M12 – Services Provided By A Practice Nurse Or Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner On Behalf Of A Medical Practitioner

M14 – Nurse Practitioners

M15 – Diagnostic Audiology Services

M16 – Eating Disorder Services

M17 – Bushfire Recovery Access Initiative - Psychologist Services and Allied Health Focussed Psychological Strategies

M18 – COVID-19 Allied Health Telehealth Services

M19 – COVID-19 Midwife Telehealth Services

Oral and maxillofacial services

O1 – Consultations

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2024 11:01 AM
To: s22
Subject: FW: your sign-off [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Kind regards
s22

Assistant Director
MBS Clinical Policy Section
P: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
MBS Policy & Reviews
Medicare Benefits & Digital Health
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

From: s47F sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:24 PM
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Thanks s22

Think we need to specify "once per procedure"

Could we say:

Creation of Y-graft, T-graft and graft-to-graft extensions, with micro-arterial or micro-venous anastomosis using microsurgical techniques, if:

- (a) the service is for one or more anastomoses, **claimed once per procedure**; and
- (b) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

Cheers

s47F
s47F

s47F

s47F

T: s47F
F:
M:



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Date: Tuesday, 17 May 2022 at 14:34
To: s47F <s47F@sa.gov.au>
Subject: your sign-off [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s47F

Just want to double check this wording for 1 November 2022.

2 Schedule 1 (cell at item 38513, column 2)

Repeal the cell, substitute with:

Creation of Y-graft, T-graft and graft-to-graft extensions, with micro-arterial or micro-venous anastomosis using microsurgical techniques, if:

- (a) the service is for one or more anastomoses; and
- (b) the service is performed in conjunction with a service to which item 38502 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

Kind regards

s22

Cardiac and Vascular Services

Assistant Director

MBS Clinical Policy Section

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MBS Reviews Unit

Medical Benefits Division

Australian Government Department of Health

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Trigger Item Summary

FOI 5277 IR

DOCUMENT 5

Page 1

Date of Service 1 Jul 2021 to 31 Oct 2022 Trigger Item: 38513 ; Date of Service.YearMonth: 16 of 36

Trigger Item Subgroup	Trigger Item	Combinations	Episodes	Services (incl trigger and co- claimed items)	Benefits (incl trigger and co- claimed items)	Fee Charged (incl trigger and co-claimed items)	Bulk Billing Rate (%) (incl trigger and co-claimed
Totals		509	2,448	10,910	\$6,859,581	\$14,160,113	0.1%
T0806: Cardio-Thoracic	38513	509	2,448	10,910	\$6,859,581	\$14,160,113	0.1%

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