

# MBS Review Advisory Committee

## Communique – Meeting 17

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 Membership

The MRAC is comprised of practising clinicians, academic, health system experts and consumers. Details of its current membership and Terms of Reference are available on the Department of Health and Aged Care [MRAC webpage](#).

At the MRAC meeting held on 8 December 2025, we welcomed nine new members to the committee. You can view the MRAC membership along with their biographies on the [MRAC webpage](#).

- Dr Terence Heng
- Professor Hylton Menz
- Dr Tristan Nickless
- Dr Jamie Nuttall
- Adjunct Professor Chris Raftery
- Mrs Sandy Robertson
- Mr Brady Schulz
- Conjoint Associate Professor Deshan Sebaratnam
- Dr Christopher Symmons

## MRAC Reviews

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

Findings and recommendations from MRAC working groups are subject to extensive consultation processes prior to MRAC consideration and finalisation. Following completion of a review, MRAC recommendations are submitted to Government for consideration.

Final reports from complete MRAC reviews are available on the [MRAC webpage](#).

## MRAC Meeting 17 Outcomes – 8 December 2025

The committee meets quarterly, and most recently met on 8 December 2025.

## Current reviews

### 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 developed a series of new and amended items that are intended to align the MBS with established, current and evidence-based clinical use of interventional radiology and interventional neuroradiology.

Feedback received from the open consultation process was considered by the working group and will help inform recommendations to be included in the Final Report.

At the 8 December 2025 meeting, an update on the review was provided to the committee.

A final report will be presented to MRAC in early 2026, for endorsement. Following endorsement by MRAC, the final report will then be provided to government for consideration.

### **Review of Long-acting Reversible Contraceptives**

The Long-acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARC) review commenced in June 2024 to review MBS items used for insertion and removal of LARCs. This review is part of the Government's commitment to invest in Women's Health. The Review is being undertaken in two phases. The MRAC recommendations relating to phase one of this review informed a number of changes from 1 November 2025, including increased fees for LARC items, introduction of new LARC administration items for nurse practitioners, and the introduction of loading items that will incentivise GPs, nurse practitioners and specialists to deliver LARC insertion and removal services at no cost to the patient. Phase two of this review includes consideration of creating MBS items or other mechanisms to support payment specific to delivering LARC services by other health workers, such as endorsed midwives.

An open consultation process was undertaken in October 2025 with feedback considered by the working group.

At the 8 December 2025 meeting, the LARC Final Report was presented to the MRAC for endorsement. The Final Report will now be provided to government for consideration.

### **Review of MBS time-tiered items for primary care**

The Time-Tiered Working Group has been established to undertake the review of MBS time-tiered items for primary care. The review will consider issues such as item consistency, opportunities to streamline, and whether the current time-tiers appropriately support contemporary clinical practice.

The working group has met on seven occasions, most recently on 9 December 2025. Two targeted stakeholder consultation forums have been held to date to discuss draft recommendations developed by the working group.

The working group is finalising these recommendations to be included in a Draft Report. A public consultation process seeking feedback on the Draft Report will commence in early 2026.

### **Review of referred chronic condition management services**

The MRAC has commenced a review of MBS referred chronic condition management services. These include allied health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care professional services for patients with a GP chronic condition management plan. The MRAC will assess whether these services are adequately supporting patients with chronic conditions and whether individual and group MBS services could be improved to better support eligible patients.

Effective from 1 November 2025, MBS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health worker and practitioner items were updated to reflect the terminology of the primary health care services these professions provide. Accordingly, the Allied Health Chronic Condition Management Review is now referred to as the 'Chronic Condition Management Services Review'. Further information on the changes to terminology can be found on [MBS Online](#).

At the 8 December 2025 meeting, the committee endorsed draft recommendations to be included in a targeted consultation process. Consultation is expected to commence in early 2026.

### **Review of the inclusion of audiometrists as Allied Health Professionals for limited audiology items**

The MRAC formally commenced the review of limited audiology health services under the MBS to allow audiometrists access to selected MBS items within their clinical scope of practice. The Australian College of Audiology (ACAud) presented information on the scope of practice, education requirements and the code of conduct of audiometrists to the committee.

A targeted consultation process commenced in November 2025. MRAC will consider this feedback at their next meeting, 3 March 2026, and seek endorsement to undertake an open consultation process in 2026.

### **Next meeting**

The MRAC will meet on 3 March 2026.