

MBS Review Advisory Committee

Communique – Meeting 19

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, academics, health system experts and consumers. Details of its current membership and Terms of Reference are available on the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing [MRAC webpage](#).

Applications for any future vacancies may be submitted via the application form available on the MRAC webpage.

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 19 Outcomes – 9 June 2026

The committee meets quarterly, and most recently met on 9 June 2026.

Current reviews

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.

Members considered draft recommendations at the 9 June 2026 meeting to be included in the Draft Report. A public consultation process seeking feedback on a Draft Report and recommendations will commence later this year.

Review of MBS 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.

A targeted consultation process was undertaken in February-March 2026, with feedback presented to MRAC at the June 2026 meeting.

A public consultation process is anticipated to occur in the second half of the 2026 calendar year.

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

The MRAC formally commenced a review of limited audiology health services under the MBS to allow audiometrists access to selected MBS items within their clinical scope of practice. The review will assess patient access to a limited number of audiology diagnostic MBS items. This will involve the consideration of the appropriateness of existing MBS services and all other complementary services available.

An open consultation process on the Draft Report concluded on 9 June 2026. MRAC will consider the feedback from this consultation process in the coming months before finalising its recommendation to government.

Review of rural generalist access to MBS items

In September 2025, the Health Ministers' Meeting recognised rural generalist medicine as "a new field of specialty practice within the specialty of General Practice", with the protected title of "specialist rural generalist".

At its meeting of 8 December 2025, the MRAC agreed to commence a review of MBS Access for Rural Generalists and agreed to establish a working group to undertake this work.

The Rural Generalists Working Group (RGWG) has met on two occasions, most recently on 25 May 2026. The third meeting of the working group is scheduled for August 2026.

Review of direct referral pathways from allied health and other primary care providers to non-GP specialists

The MRAC has formally commenced a review of direct referrals from allied health and other primary care providers to non-GP specialists.

At the 9 June meeting, MRAC discussed the development of criteria to assess referral pathways.

Next meeting

The MRAC will meet virtually on 1 September 2026.