

MBS Review Advisory Committee

Communique – Meeting 20

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 20 Outcomes – 1 September 2026

The committee meets quarterly, and most recently met on 1 September 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. Following endorsement of the draft recommendations by MRAC, the Draft Report was endorsed to undergo a public consultation process. Public consultation seeking feedback on the Draft Report and recommendations commenced on 3 September and closes on 15 October 2026.

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 considered in developing draft recommendations. At their 1 September meeting MRAC members endorsed the draft report for public consultation. Public consultation is anticipated to commence in late October.

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. Following analysis of the feedback, MRAC finalised its recommendation to government at its 1 September meeting. A final report will be published on the MRAC webpage.

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 October 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.

The MRAC is assessing Recommendation 12 of the Scope of Practice Review Final Report against the MRAC Guiding Principles.

Next meeting

The MRAC will meet in Canberra on 1 December 2026.