



## GUARANTEEING MEDICARE – MEDICAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE REVIEW – GYNAECOLOGY SERVICES

The Australian Government is making changes to Medicare-funded gynaecology services to support best practice treatment and improve patient experience and safety. These changes follow recommendations from the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review Taskforce.

### What are the changes?

From 1 March 2022, there will be a number of changes to MBS items to better align gynaecology services with contemporary and evidence based treatment.

Some of the changes to gynaecology service items include those to improve patient access and safety, by making changes to items for the insertion of intrauterine devices and outpatient diagnostic hysteroscopy, along with restructuring gynaecology oncology service items to better reflect current practice. Amendments to assisted reproductive technology include rebating gonadotrophin-stimulated ovulation induction which will enable the possibility of conceiving naturally and avoiding more invasive treatment, thereby protecting patient safety and promoting higher value care.

A range of other changes will be made to simplify the items and improve billing consistency for patients.

### Why are these changes being made?

These changes were recommended by the independent MBS review Taskforce, following a comprehensive review of MBS items by clinicians, health system experts and consumers. The taskforce reviewed 141 gynaecology services across four specialty areas including general gynaecology, gynaecology oncology, assisted reproductive technology and urogynaecology.

The changes better reflect the procedures being performed by practitioners and contemporary best-practice. These changes will also ensure that claims are consistent and appropriate.

### What does this mean for patients?

Patients will benefit as gynaecology services will be aligned to contemporary care. Providers will be supported to provide best practice treatment, tailored to individual patient needs, which will lead to better health outcomes.

### What does this mean for providers?

Providers will benefit as Medicare funding will better align with contemporary clinical practice for gynaecology services.

The consolidation of some items will streamline billing practices and support more uniform billing across patients.

The Department will work closely with peak bodies when implementing the changes to gynaecology services MBS items. Providers will receive further information about the changes as implementation proceeds.

Further detail will be available on  
[www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au)