



Ensuring Appropriate Use of Neurosurgery and Neurology Services

The Australian Government is making changes to Medicare-funded neurosurgery and neurology services to support high-value care and ensure patients are receiving procedures in line with current best practice. These changes follow recommendations from the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review Taskforce.

Recent changes to MBS items for neurosurgery and neurology services

Implementation of these changes was initially scheduled for 1 July 2020, however, this date was deferred due to a number of factors including the impact of COVID-19. Implementation of these changes occurred on 1 November 2020.

Important notice regarding items 39018, 39109 and 39113

On 1 January 2021, the MBS was amended to allow claiming of assist with the neurosurgery items 39018, 39109 and 39113. The exclusion of an assist for these items is an unintended consequence of changes to MBS items for neurosurgery and neurology implemented on 1 November 2020.

Further information on these changes is provided in the updated communication materials being made available on the [MBS online factsheet page for the neurosurgery and neurology changes](#).

The MBS Review Inbox at MBSReviews@health.gov.au remains the best way for providers and patients to ask questions regarding the neurosurgery and neurology MBS changes.

Further detail will be available on www.mbsonline.gov.au