



Guaranteeing Medicare – Medicare Benefits Schedule Review – response to Taskforce recommendations

The Government will invest an additional \$6 billion in Medicare from \$25 billion in 2018–19 to \$31 billion in 2022–23. The Government will respond to recommendations from the independent, clinician-led Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review Taskforce.

The MBS Review Taskforce is advising the Government about how to modernise the MBS, align it with contemporary clinical practice, and improve patient outcomes.

The Taskforce and its committees are made up of eminent Australian clinicians and consumers. Over 70 committees and working groups are in the process of reviewing, or have reviewed, over 95 per cent of the more than 5,700 MBS items.

Evidence based changes will include changes to intensive care and emergency medicine items from 1 March 2020. Changes to neurosurgery and neurosurgery services items and urology services items will take effect from 1 July 2020.

Why is this important?

These changes will improve health outcomes for patients.

Who will benefit?

Ongoing reviews will ensure that patients are receiving safe, quality and contemporary best practice health care.

How much will this cost?

This will cost \$17.3 million from 2018–19 to 2022–23.