MBS Specialist Telehealth Services from 1 July 2022

## Non-GP medical specialists and approved dental practitioners

Last updated: 8 March 2023

* From 1 January 2022, access to a range of specialist consultations is supported by permanent, ongoing MBS telehealth arrangements (video and phone).
* The permanent arrangements reflect that face to face and video services supports better patient care and outcomes and should be the preferred form of consultation with patients, particularly for more complex clinical services.
* A range of temporary specialist telehealth (telephone and video) items ceased on 30 June 2022.

## What telehealth items are permanently available?

The following telehealth items have been permanently available since 1 January 2022 and continue – see **Attachment A**

Group A40, sub-groups 4-38:

* 3 items for specialist attendances (2 videoconference and 1 telephone)
* 6 items for consultant physician attendances (5 videoconference and 1 telephone)
* 1 specialist and consultant physician early intervention services (1 videoconference)
* 2 geriatrician services for assessment and management (2 videoconferences)
* 20 consultant psychiatrist services including consultations, group psychotherapy and interviews (17 video conference and 3 telephone)
* 3 paediatrician services for early intervention and services for treatment of eating disorders (3 videoconference)
* 6 items for public health physician attendances (4 videoconference and 2 telephone)
* 6 items for neurosurgeon attendances (5 videoconference and 1 telephone)
* 1 item for anaesthesia attendances (1 videoconference)
* 3 items for approved dental practitioners (2 videoconference and 1 telephone)

Group T4, sub-group 1\*:

* 8 items for obstetricians, GPs, midwives, nurses, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners (4 videoconference and 4 telephone)

\*GPs and OMPs working in general practice can only perform a telehealth or telephone service where they have an established clinical relationship with the patient.

## Where can I find more information?

The full item descriptor(s) and information on other changes to the MBS can be found on the MBS Online website at [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/). You can also subscribe to future MBS updates by visiting [MBS Online](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/) and clicking ‘Subscribe’.

The Department of Health and Aged Care provides an email advice service for providers seeking advice on interpretation of the MBS items and rules and the *Health Insurance
Act 1973* and associated regulations. If you have a query relating exclusively to interpretation of the Schedule, you should email askMBS@health.gov.au.

Private health insurance information on the product tier arrangements is available at [www.privatehealth.gov.au](https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/health_insurance/phichanges/index.htm). Detailed information on the MBS item listing within clinical categories is available on the [Department’s website](https://www.health.gov.au/topics/private-health-insurance/private-health-insurance-reforms). Private health insurance minimum accommodation benefits information, including MBS item accommodation classification, is available in the latest version of the *Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Rules 2011* found on the [Federal Register of Legislation](https://www.legislation.gov.au). If you have a query in relation to private health insurance, you should email PHI@health.gov.au.

Subscribe to ‘[News for Health Professionals](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/news/all)’ on the Services Australia website and you will receive regular news highlights.

If you are seeking advice in relation to Medicare billing, claiming, payments, or obtaining a provider number, please go to the Health Professionals page on the Services Australia website or contact the Services Australia on the Provider Enquiry Line – 13 21 50.

The data file for software vendors when available can be accessed via the [Downloads](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/downloads) page.

Please note that the information provided is a general guide only. It is ultimately the responsibility of treating practitioners to use their professional judgment to determine the most clinically appropriate services to provide, and then to ensure that any services billed to Medicare fully meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the legislation.

This factsheet is current as of the Last updated date shown above and does not account for MBS changes since that date.

## Attachment A

## MBS specialist telehealth items available from 1 January 2022 – out-of-hospital attendances

**Specialist, Consultant Physician, Psychiatrist, Paediatrician, Geriatrician, Public Health Physician, Neurosurgeon and Anaesthetist telehealth attendances.**

Table 1. Specialist services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specialist. Initial attendance | 104 | 91822 |  |
| **Specialist. Subsequent attendance** | 105 | 91823 | 91833 |

Table 2. Consultant Physician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant physician. Initial attendance | 110 | 91824 |  |
| Consultant physician. Subsequent attendance | 116 | 91825 |  |
| **Consultant physician. Minor attendance** | 119 | 91826 | 91836 |

Table 3. Consultant Physician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant physician. Initial assessment, patient with at least 2 morbidities, prepare a treatment and management plan, at least 45 minutes | 132 | 92422 |  |
| **Consultant physician, Subsequent assessment, patient with at least 2 morbidities, review a treatment and management plan, at least 20 minutes** | 133 | 92423 |  |

Table 4. Specialist and Consultant Physician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specialist or consultant physician early intervention services for children with autism, pervasive developmental disorder, or disability | 137 | 92141 |  |

Table 5. Geriatrician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Geriatrician, prepare an assessment and management plan, patient at least 65 years, more than 60 minutes | 141 | 92623 |  |
| **Geriatrician, review a management plan, more than 30 minutes** | 143 | 92624 |  |

Table 6. Consultant Psychiatrist services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant psychiatrist. Consultation, not more than 15 minutes | 300 | 91827 | 91837\* |
| Consultant psychiatrist. Consultation, 15 to 30 minutes | 302 | 91828 | 91838\* |
| Consultant psychiatrist. Consultation, 30 to 45 minutes | 304 | 91829 | 91839\* |
| Consultant psychiatrist. Consultation, 45 to 75 minutes | 306 | 91830 |  |
| **Consultant psychiatrist. Consultation, more than 75 minutes** | 308 | 91831 |  |

*\*Where the attendance is after the first attendance as part of a single course of treatment*

Table 7. Consultant Psychiatrist services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant psychiatrist, prepare a treatment and management plan, patient under 13 years with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder, at least 45 minutes | 289 | 92434 |  |
| Consultant psychiatrist, prepare a management plan, more than 45 minutes | 291 | 92435 |  |
| Consultant psychiatrist, review management plan, 30 to 45 minutes | 293 | 92436 |  |
| Consultant psychiatrist, attendance, new patient (or has not received attendance in preceding 24 mths), more than 45 minutes | 296 | 92437 |  |
| Consultant psychiatrist, interview of a person other than patient, in the course of initial diagnostic evaluation of patient, 20 to 45 minutes | 348 | 92458 |  |
| Consultant psychiatrist, interview of a person other than patient, in the course of initial diagnostic evaluation of patient, 45 minutes or more | 350 | 92459 |  |
| **Consultant psychiatrist, interview of a person other than patient, in the course of continuing management of patient, not less than 20 minutes, not exceeding 4 attendances per calendar year**  | 352 | 92460 |  |

Table 8. Consultant Psychiatrist services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant psychiatrist, group psychotherapy, at least 1 hour, involving group of 2 to 9 unrelated patients or a family group of more than 3 patients, each referred to consultant psychiatrist | 342 | 92455 |  |
| **Consultant psychiatrist, group psychotherapy, at least 1 hour, involving family group of 3 patients, each referred to consultant psychiatrist** | 344 | 92456 |  |
| **Consultant psychiatrist, group psychotherapy, at least 1 hour, involving family group of 2 patients, each referred to consultant psychiatrist** | 346 | 92457 |  |

Table 9. Consultant Psychiatrist services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consultant psychiatrist, prepare an eating disorder treatment and management plan, more than 45 minutes | 90260 | 92162 |  |
| **Consultant psychiatrist, to review an eating disorder plan, more than 30 minutes** | 90266 | 92172 |  |

Table 10. Paediatrician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Paediatrician early intervention services for children with autism, pervasive developmental disorder, or disability | 135 | 92140 |  |
| **Paediatrician, prepare an eating disorder treatment and management plan, more than 45 minutes** | 90261 | 92163 |  |
| **Paediatrician, to review an eating disorder plan, more than 20 minutes** | 90267 | 92173 |  |

Table 11. Public Health Physician services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Public health physician, level A attendance | 410 | 92513 | 92521\* |
| Public health physician, level B attendance, less than 20 minutes | 411 | 92514 | 92522\* |
| Public health physician, level C attendance, at least 20 minutes | 412 | 92515 |  |
| **Public health physician, level D attendance, at least 40 minutes** | 413 | 92516 |  |

\*Where the attendance is not the first attendance for that particular clinical indication

Table 12. Neurosurgery attendances

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Neurosurgeon, initial attendance | 6007 | 92610 |  |
| Neurosurgeon, minor attendance, *after the first in a single course of treatment.* | 6009 | 92611 | 92618 |
| Neurosurgeon, subsequent attendance, 15 to 30 minutes | 6011 | 92612 |  |
| Neurosurgeon, subsequent attendance, 30 to 45 minutes | 6013 | 92613 |  |
| **Neurosurgeon, subsequent attendance, more than 45 minutes** | 6015 | 92614 |  |

Table 13. Anaesthesia attendances

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anaesthetist, professional attendance, advanced or complex | 17615 | 92701 |  |

Table 14. Approved Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery attendances

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dental practitioner (oral and maxillofacial surgery only), initial attendance | 51700 | 54001 |  |
| **Dental practitioner (oral and maxillofacial surgery only), subsequent attendance** | 51703 | 54002 | 54004 |

Table 15. Obstetricians, GPs, Midwives, Nurses or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner services

| Service | Face-to-face items | Video items | Telephone items |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Antenatal Service provided by a Nurse, Midwife or an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner on behalf of, and under the supervision of, a medical practitioner | 16400 | 91850 | 91855 |
| Postnatal attendance by an obstetrician or GP | 16407 | 91851 | 91856 |
| Postnatal attendance by:(i) a midwife (on behalf of and under the supervision of the medical practitioner who attended the birth); or(ii) an obstetrician; or(iii) a general practitioner | 16408 | 91852 | 91857 |
| **Antenatal attendance** | 16500 | 91853 | 91858 |

*\*GPs and OMPs working in general practice can only perform a telehealth or telephone service where they have an established clinical relationship with the patient*