



Increasing the MBS Rebate for Selected Procedures Performed by General Practitioners (GPs)

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Effective 1 November 2017

What do the changes involve?

The MBS items for some procedural services currently have different fees for GPs and specialists. This is depicted by 'G' (GP) and 'S' (specialist) items, whereby a lower fee is set for a procedural service performed by a GP than for the same service performed by a specialist. The current priced GP items will be removed and the specialist items will be amended to allow both GPs and specialists to claim the same fee for these services, set at the specialist rate. This change will see 43 MBS 'S' items amended and 31 current 'G' items deleted.

Why is the Government making this change?

This change acknowledges that minor procedures performed by specialists and GPs should be equally remunerated.

This change is based on a recommendation of the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce.

What does this mean for MBS claiming?

The GP (lower fee) items will be removed from the MBS. GPs will be able to claim the higher fee items which were only available previously to specialists. There will be no change to the fees for MBS items claimed by specialists.

Change to item description/fees:

Items to be deleted from the MBS:

30009, 30013, 30041, 30048, 30067, 30074, 30102, 30106, 30110, 30265, 30282, 30620, 30634, 30638, 30675, 35512, 35516, 35526, 35617, 35639, 35676, 35683, 35687, 35712, 35716, 37622, 41665, 41788, 41792, 41796, 41800

Draft amendments to items in the MBS (final wording of items subject to finalisation and passage of legislation):

30010	Localised burns, dressing of, under general anaesthesia (not involving grafting) (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$73.90 Benefit: 75% = \$55.45
30014	Extensive burns, dressing of, under general anaesthesia (not involving grafting) (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$155.40 Benefit: 75% = \$116.55



30042	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, other than on face or neck, large (more than 7 cm long), involving deeper tissue, other than a service to which another item in Group T4 applies (S) (Anaes) Fee: \$185.60 Benefit: 75% = \$139.20 85% = \$157.80
30049	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, on face or neck, large (more than 7 cm long), involving deeper tissue (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$185.60 Benefit: 75% = \$139.20 85% = \$157.80
30068	Foreign body in muscle, tendon or other deep tissue, removal of, as an independent procedure (S) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$276.80 Benefit: 75% = \$207.60 85% = \$235.30
30075	Diagnostic biopsy of lymph gland, muscle or other deep tissue or organ, as an independent procedure, if the biopsy specimen is sent for pathological examination (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$149.75 Benefit: 75% = \$112.35 85% = \$127.30
30103	Sinus, excision of, involving muscle and deep tissue (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$183.90 Benefit: 75% = \$137.95 85% = \$156.35
30107	Ganglion or small bursa, excision of, other than a service associated with a service to which another item in this Group applies (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$219.95 Benefit: 75% = \$165.00 85% = \$187.00
30111	Bursa (large), including olecranon, calcaneum or patella, excision of (S) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$371.50 Benefit: 75% = \$278.65 85% = \$315.80
30266	Salivary gland, removal of calculus from duct or meatotomy or marsupialisation, one or more such procedures (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$149.75 Benefit: 75% = \$112.35 85% = \$127.30
30283	Ranula or mucous cyst of mouth, removal of (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$204.70 Benefit: 75% = \$153.55 85% = \$174.00
30621	Repair of symptomatic umbilical, epigastric or linea alba hernia requiring mesh or other formal repair of, in a person 10 years of age or over, other than a service to which item 30403 or 30405 applies (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$407.50 Benefit: 75% = \$305.65
30635	Varicocele, surgical correction of, other than a service associated with a service to which items 30638, 30641 and 30644 apply—one procedure (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$291.80 Benefit: 75% = \$218.85
30641	Orchidectomy, simple or subcapsular, unilateral with or without insertion of testicular prosthesis (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$407.50 Benefit: 75% = \$305.65
30676	Pilonidal sinus or cyst, or sacral sinus or cyst, excision of (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$379.05 Benefit: 75% = \$284.30 85% = \$322.20
35513	Bartholin's cyst, excision of (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$221.70 Benefit: 75% = \$166.30 85% = \$188.45
35517	Bartholin's cyst or gland, marsupialisation of (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$146.00 Benefit: 75% = \$109.50 85% = \$124.10
35527	Urethral caruncle, excision of (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$146.00 Benefit: 75% = \$109.50 85% = \$124.10
35618	Cervix, cone biopsy, amputation or repair of, other than a service to which item 35577 or 35578 applies (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$218.00 Benefit: 75% = \$163.50 85% = \$185.30



35640	Uterus, curettage of, with or without dilatation (including curettage for incomplete miscarriage) under general anaesthesia or under epidural or spinal (intrathecal) nerve block, including procedures to which item 35626, 35627 or 35630 applies, if performed (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$183.00 Benefit: 75% = \$137.25
35677	Ectopic pregnancy, removal of (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$ 536.00 Benefit: 75% = \$402.00
35684	Uterus, suspension or fixation of, as an independent procedure (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$ 471.15 Benefit: 75% = \$353.40
35688	Sterilisation by transection or resection of fallopian tubes, via abdominal or vaginal routes or via laparoscopy using diathermy or another method (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$397.25 Benefit: 75% = \$297.95
35713	Laparotomy, involving oophorectomy, salpingectomy, salpingo-oophorectomy, removal of ovarian, parovarian, fimbrial or broad ligament cyst—one such procedure, other than a service associated with hysterectomy (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$452.85 Benefit: 75% = \$339.65
35717	Laparotomy, involving oophorectomy, salpingectomy, salpingo-oophorectomy, removal of ovarian, parovarian, fimbrial or broad ligament cyst—2 or more such procedures, unilateral or bilateral, other than a service associated with hysterectomy (S) (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.) Fee: \$ 545.30 Benefit: 75% = \$409.00
37623	Vasotomy or vasectomy, unilateral or bilateral (S) (Anaes.) Fee: \$229.85 Benefit: 75% = \$172.40 85% = \$195.40
41668	Nasal polyp or polypi, removal of (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$219.95 Benefit: 75% = \$165.00
41789	Tonsils or tonsils and adenoids, removal of, in a person aged less than 12 years (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$295.70 Benefit: 75% = \$221.80
41793	Tonsils or tonsils and adenoids, removal of, in a person 12 years of age or over (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$ 371.50 Benefit: 75% = \$278.65
41797	Tonsils or tonsils and adenoids, arrest of haemorrhage requiring general anaesthesia, following removal of (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$144.00 Benefit: 75% = \$108.00
41801	Adenoids, removal of (S) (H) (Anaes.) Fee: \$162.95 Benefit: 75% = \$122.25