



Budget 2020-21

This information is accurate as at 7 October 2020.

Guaranteeing Medicare – Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) reviews

MBS Taskforce reviews for cardiac services

This amends the cardiac items on the MBS in response to recommendations from the MBS Review Taskforce (the Taskforce).

On 1 August 2020 changes were made to MBS items for cardiac imaging services. This will better clarify the clinical requirements and circumstances where this testing and repeat testing is appropriate. These changes will promote high value use of electrocardiogram (ECG), echocardiogram, ambulatory ECG, ECG stress testing, myocardial perfusion studies and stress echocardiogram.

This is not subject to the passage of legislation.

When will this start and finish?

This started on 1 August 2020 and is ongoing.

Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) – additional AECG item restrictions

New MBS items for ambulatory electrocardiography to promote high value use were introduced on 1 August 2020. This will align with contemporary technologies.

This is not subject to the passage of legislation.

When will this start and finish?

This started on 1 August 2020 and is ongoing.

DI new item - computed tomography angiography (CTA)

A new MBS item covering CTA of the pulmonary arteries for the investigation of pulmonary emboli will be introduced on 1 November 2020.

This change is subject to the passage of legislation.

When will this start and finish?

This will start on 1 November 2020 and is ongoing.

MBS Taskforce reviews for Orthopaedic Surgery

The Taskforce reviewed 599 orthopaedic items and made 170 recommendations. The recommendations support surgeons to provide best practice treatment. This will improve safety and quality of care for patients. The changes will be introduced on 1 July 2021.

This change is subject to the passage of legislation.

Who does this measure affect?

This affects patients eligible for these MBS items and health professionals providing these services.

When will this start and finish?

This will start on 1 July 2021 and is ongoing.