

MBS item changes (1 May 2010)



The following information regarding changes to MBS items as of 1 May 2010 has been summaries from the Department of Health and Ageing <http://www.health.gov.au/mbsprimarycareitems>.

Explanatory Notes will not available until mid April 2010.

Fees for level C and D general attendance items for groups A1 (GP attendance items), A7 (GP Acupuncture attendance items), and A18 (Practice Incentive Payments) will be **increased**.

Item No	Description	Old Fee	New Item No	New Fee
A Item 3	Item descriptor will not be changed	\$15.70	—	—
B Item 23	<p>Professional attendance by a general practitioner lasting less than 20 minutes involving, where clinically relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking a history; undertaking clinical examination; arranging any necessary investigation; implementing a management plan; providing appropriate preventive health care; <p>in relation to one or more health related issues, with appropriate documentation.</p>	\$34.30	—	—
C Item 36	<p>Professional attendance by a general practitioner lasting at least 20 minutes involving, where clinically relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking a detailed history; undertaking clinical examination; arranging any necessary investigation; implementing a management plan; providing appropriate preventive health care; <p>in relation to one or more health related issues, with appropriate documentation</p>	\$65.20	36	\$66.45
D Item 44	<p>Professional attendance by a general practitioner lasting at least 40 minutes involving, where clinically relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking an extensive history; undertaking clinical examination; arranging any necessary investigation; implementing a management plan; providing appropriate preventive health care; <p>in relation to one or more health related issues, with appropriate documentation</p>	\$95.95	44	\$97.80

Non-urgent after hours (Group A22) items 5040 and 5060 fees have been **increased**.

Item level	Old fee	New fee
C	\$76.30	\$77.75
D	\$107.10	\$109.15

Changes to attendance items provided out of consulting rooms

Medicare items for standard consultations provided out of consulting rooms **will be combined for home visits, hospital and other institutions**. Items relating to services to residential aged care facilities will remain unchanged.

OLD ITEMS		NEW ITEMS	
Item number	Item name	Item number	Item name
5003	Home visit	5003 \$26.85 + derived fee*	Home visit or consultation at an institution (other than a hospital or residential aged care facility)
5007	Consultation at an institution other than a hospital or residential aged care facility		
5023	Home visit	5023 \$45.45 + derived fee*	Home visit or consultation at an institution (other than a hospital or residential aged care facility)
5026	Consultation at an institution other than a hospital or residential aged care facility		
5043	Home visit	5043 \$77.75 + derived fee*	Home visit or consultation at an institution (other than a hospital or residential aged care facility)
5046	Consultation at an institution other than a hospital or residential aged care facility		
5063	Home visit	5063 \$109.15 + derived fee*	Home visit or consultation at an institution (other than a hospital or residential aged care facility)
5064	Consultation at an institution other than a hospital or residential aged care facility		

* The derived fee is \$24.05 divided by the number of patients seen, up to a maximum of six patients. For seven or more patients - the fee for the respective in-surgery item plus \$1.80 per patient.

Consolidation of Urgent After Hours Attendance Items

The following changes will be made to the urgent after hours attendance items:

- items for urgent attendances at consulting rooms and urgent attendances out of consulting rooms, other than between 11pm and 7am, will be **combined and merged with the transitional hours item for urgent attendances after hours**; and
- urgent attendances at consulting rooms and urgent attendances **out of consulting rooms**, between 11pm and 7am, will be combined into one item.

OLD ITEMS		NEW ITEMS	
Item number	Item name	Item number	Item name
1	Urgent attendance after hours at a place other than consulting rooms (other than an attendance between 11pm and 7am)	597 Fee: \$120.30	Urgent attendance – after hours (other than between 11pm and 7am)
2	Urgent attendance after hours at consulting rooms (other than an attendance between 11pm and 7am)		
603	Urgent attendance during transitional hours		

OLD ITEMS		NEW ITEMS	
Item number	Item name	Item number	Item name
601	Urgent attendance after hours at a place other than consulting rooms (between 11pm and 7am)	599 Fee: \$141.75	Urgent attendance - unsociable hours (between 11pm and 7am)
602	Urgent attendance after hours at consulting rooms (between 11pm and 7 am)		

Changes to After Hours Attendance Items

Urgent after hours items will have a **new commencement time of 6pm on weekdays and 12pm (noon) on Saturdays**.

Non-urgent after hours items provided out of consulting rooms will also commence at 6pm on weekdays and 12pm (noon) on Saturdays.

This effectively means that urgent attendances between 6-8pm weekdays and 12pm (noon) to 1pm on Saturdays (previously known as 'transitional hours items') will be absorbed into the urgent after hours attendance item.

The after hours period for non-urgent items provided at consulting rooms will remain unchanged and may only be provided after 8pm weekdays and from 1pm on Saturdays. The table below sets out the new time period for MBS after hours GP items.

Attendance period	Applicable time			Item number
	Monday to Friday*	Saturday*	Sunday and/or public holiday	
Urgent attendance – after hours	Between 7am - 8am and 6pm - 11pm	Between 7am - 8am and 12 noon - 11pm	Between 7am - 11pm	597
Urgent attendance - unsociable hours	Between 11pm - 7am	Between 11pm - 7am	Between 11pm - 7am	599
Non-urgent after hours at consulting rooms	Before 8am or after 8pm	Before 8am or after 1pm	All day	5000, 5020, 5040, 5060
Non-urgent after hours at a place other than consulting rooms	Before 8am or after 6pm	Before 8am or after 12 noon	All day	5003, 5010, 5023, 5028, 5043, 5049, 5063, 5067

* with the exception of public holidays

Changes to Prolonged Attendances (Group A5)

The prolonged attendance items will be amended to allow **one or more medical practitioners to each itemise for items 160-164 for simultaneous attendance** on one patient at risk of imminent death. Currently, only one practitioner can claim these items in respect of one patient.

In addition, the items may now be claimed even if the time spent by the practitioners providing emergency care is not continuous (on the one occasion).

Changes to Health Assessments and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Checks

The structure of health assessment items will be changed and Medicare fees will be rationalised. Ten health assessment items will be replaced by **four new time-based items**.

Old Item No	Description	Old Fee	New Item No	New Fee
709	Healthy Kids Check	\$47.10	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
711	Health check by a Practice Nurse or Aboriginal Health Worker who has received their 4 year old vaccination	\$47.10	10986	\$55.00
717	45-year old assessment	\$106.95	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
713	Type 2 Diabetes risk evaluation	\$62.80	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
700	Older persons health assessment	\$179.15	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
712	CMA permanent resident of ACF	\$200.70	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
718	HA for a person with an intellectual disability	\$213.50	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10
716	HA for a person in Australia under the Government's Humanitarian Program	\$213.50	701 (30 mins)	\$55.00
			703 (30-45 mins)	\$127.80
			705 (45-60 mins)	\$176.30
			707 (<60 mins)	\$249.10

The Four Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Health assessment items will be collapsed into one Health Assessment item with no designated time or complexity requirements, with no distinction between an assessment provided in or out of consulting rooms.

The length of the health assessment will be at the medical practitioner's discretion.

The following health assessments will be undertaken under the new item.

The health assessment item for services provided by a practice nurse or registered Aboriginal health worker on behalf of a medical practitioner will move to a new group (M12), and as a consequence will have a new item number (10986).

The time period includes the time taken by the doctor and the practice nurse to undertake a health assessment.

Old Item No	Description	Old Fee	New Item No	New Fee
708	ATSI Child Health Assessment	\$179.15	715	\$196.65
710	ATSI Adult Health Assessment	\$213.50	715	\$196.65
704	ATSI Older persons Health Assessment	\$179.15	715	\$196.65
	HA for services provided by a practice Nurse or registered Aboriginal Health worker on behalf of the GP		10986	\$55.00

Changes to Chronic Disease Management Items

Group A15, Subgroup 1: GP Management Plans, Team Care Arrangements, Multidisciplinary Care Plans

The old item numbers will be deleted. The new item will have the same requirements as the old items and the same fee.

Old Item No	Description	Old Fee	New Item No	New Fee
725	Review of a GP Management Plan	\$66.80	732	\$66.80
727	Co-ordinate a review of TCA/Multidisciplinary Community Care Plan Multidisciplinary Discharge Plan	\$66.80	732	\$66.80

Group A15, Subgroup 2: Case Conferences

The multidisciplinary case conference item structure will be streamlined. Eighteen GP multidisciplinary case conference items (734-779) will be combined into six new items (735, 739, 743, 747, 750 and 758) based on the duration of the service and on whether the practitioner is coordinating or participating in the case conference.

The old item numbers will be deleted. There will no longer be separate items according to the location of the service.

The time periods will be adjusted to more closely align with the time periods used for level B, C, and D normal consultation items.

OLD ITEMS		NEW ITEMS	
Item number and fee	Service time	Item number and new fee	Service time
<i>Organise and coordinate a GP Case Conference</i>			
734, 740, 746 Fee: \$89.55	At least 15 and less than 30 minutes	735 Fee: \$65.40	At least 15 minutes and less than 20 minutes
736, 742, 749 Fee: \$134.35	At least 30 and less than 45 minutes	739 Fee: \$112.10	At least 20 minutes and less than 40 minutes
738, 744, 757 Fee: \$179.15	At least 45 minutes	743 Fee: \$186.85	At least 40 minutes
<i>Participate in a GP Case Conference</i>			
759, 768, 775 Fee: \$63.95	At least 15 and less than 30 minutes	747 Fee: \$48.10	At least 15 minutes and less than 20 minutes
762, 771, 778 Fee: \$102.35	At least 30 and less than 45 minutes	750 Fee: \$82.40	At least 20 minutes and less than 40 minutes
765, 773, 779 Fee: \$140.70	At least 45 minutes	758 Fee: \$137.35	At least 40 minutes

Quick Reference Guide

Item name/category	Old item numbers	New item numbers
Other non-referred attendances out of consulting rooms - Brief	4, 13, 19	4
Other non-referred attendances out of consulting rooms - Standard	24, 25, 33	24
Other non-referred attendances out of consulting rooms - Long	37, 38, 40	37
Other non-referred attendances out of consulting rooms - Prolonged	47, 48, 50	47
Other non referred attendances urgent attendance - after hours	1, 2, 603	597
Other non referred attendances urgent attendance - unsociable hours	601, 602	599
Health assessments	700, 702, 709, 712, 713, 714, 716, 717, 718, 719	701, 703, 705, 707
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people Health assessment	704, 706, 708, 710	715
Health assessment provided by a practice nurse or registered Aboriginal health worker	711	10986
Chronic Disease Management	725, 727	732
GP Multidisciplinary Case Conference	734-779	735, 739, 743, 747, 750, 758
Other non-referred non urgent after hours attendances	5003, 5007	5003
	5023, 5026	5023
	5043, 5046	5043
	5063, 5064	5063