



Quick reference guide

MBS Review recommendations: Nuclear Medicine Imaging - Group I04

Date of change: 1 May 2020

Amended items: 61310 61313 61314 61328 61340 61348 61353 61356
61360* 61361* 61446 61449 61461 61473 61480 61647

Deleted items: 61316 61317 61320 61352 61401 61405 61417 61437
61458 61484

Revised structure

All nuclear medicine items annotated with 'NK' will be deleted. The annotation 'K' will be deleted from the remaining items (see the capital sensitivity quick reference guide).

Items 61352, 61401, 61405, 61417, 61437, 61458 and 61484 will be deleted. The items cover various procedures considered to be obsolete.

Items 61316, 61317 and 61320 (cardiac blood studies) will be deleted and the indications for these items will be included in item 61314.

The descriptor for item 61473 will be amended to remove the phrase 'including uptake measurement when undertaken'.

The item descriptors for most items that contain a reference to planar imaging or single photon emission tomography (SPECT) will be amended to remove those references. The items are 61310, 61313, 61314, 61328, 61340, 61348, 61353, 61356, 61438, 61461 and 61480.

Item 61505 (computed tomography (CT) for attenuation correction and anatomical localisation of single photon emission tomography) will now be able to be co-claimed with positron emission tomography (PET). Consequently, the descriptor for item 61647 (Whole body ⁶⁸Ga-DOTA-peptide PET study) will be amended to exclude references to CT for attenuation correction and anatomical localisation and the schedule fee item 61647 will be reduced by \$100.

MSAC change: the descriptors for items 61446 and 61449 (regional bone studies) will be amended so that they can be claimed for scans of other body parts.

Note: the items where the removal of the references to the planar imaging and/or single photon emission tomography are the only changes are not listed below.



Amended item 61314 – Gated cardiac blood pool study

Overview: The indications in items 61316, 61317 and 61320 have been merged into this item. Items 61316, 61317 and 61320 have been deleted. The references to the imaging technology have also been removed.

Service/Descriptor: Gated cardiac blood pool study, with or without intervention, and first pass blood flow or cardiac shunt study (R).

Indication: The indications for this item now include the indications in items 61316, 61317 and 61320.

MBS fee: \$420.00 (no change)

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61360 – Hepatobiliary study – pre-treatment

Overview: The explanatory note for this item has been amended to remove the specific product 'CCK' and replace this with the generic word 'cholagogue'. There are no changes to the item itself.

Service/Descriptor: Hepatobiliary study, including morphine administration or pre-treatment with a cholagogue when performed (R).

Indication: There are no changes to the indications for this item.

MBS fee: \$403.35 (no change)

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61361 – Hepatobiliary study – infusion

Overview: The explanatory note for this item has been amended to remove the specific product 'sinaclide (CCK-8)' and replace this with the generic word 'cholagogue'. There are no changes to the item itself.

Service/Descriptor: Hepatobiliary study with formal quantification following baseline imaging, using a cholagogue (R).

Indication: There are no changes to the indications for this item.

MBS fee: \$461.40 (no change)

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61446 – Regional bone study non SPECT

Overview: The descriptor has been amended to allow for the item to expand the body structures that can be scanned under the item.

Service/Descriptor: Regional scintigraphic study using an approved bone scanning agent, including, when undertaken, blood flow imaging, blood pool imaging and repeat imaging on a separate occasion (R).

Indication: A bone-scanning radiopharmaceutical must still be used in order to claim this item. The item applies to scans undertaken without the use of single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT).



MBS fee: \$333.55

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61449 – Regional bone study SPECT

Overview: The descriptor has been amended to allow for the item to expand the body structures that can be scanned under the item.

Service/Descriptor: Regional scintigraphic study and single photon emission tomography, using an approved bone scanning agent, including, when undertaken, blood flow imaging, blood pool imaging and repeat imaging on a separate occasion (R).

Indication: A bone-scanning radiopharmaceutical must still be used in order to claim this item. The item applies to scans undertaken with the use of single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT).

MBS fee: \$456.20

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61473 – Thyroid study

Overview: The descriptor has been amended delete the phrase 'including uptake measurement when undertaken'. The Taskforce considered that it is no longer necessary to include these words, since the benefit is payable in either instance.

Service/Descriptor: Thyroid study (R).

Indication: There are no changes to the indications for this item.

MBS fee: \$175.40

Benefit: No change.

Amended item 61505 – CT in conjunction with SPECT or PET

Overview: The descriptor has been amended to include PET. The item currently only applies when rendered in conjunction with SPECT.

Service/Descriptor: CT scan performed at the same time and covering the same body area as single photon emission tomography or positron emission tomography for the purpose of anatomic localisation or attenuation correction if no separate diagnostic CT report is issued and only in association with items 61302 to 61647 (R).

Indication: The item now anatomical localisation and attenuation of a PET scan. All other requirements remain the same.

MBS fee: \$100.00 (no change)

Benefit: No change.



Amended item 61647 – Gallium PET

Overview: The descriptor has been amended to exclude references to CT for attenuation correction and anatomical localisation and the schedule fee has been reduced by \$100.

Service/Descriptor: Whole body ⁶⁸Ga-DOTA-peptide PET study, if:

- (a) a gastro-entero-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour is suspected on the basis of biochemical evidence with negative or equivocal conventional imaging; or
- (b) both:
 - (i) a surgically amenable gastro-entero-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour has been identified on the basis of conventional techniques; and
 - (ii) the study is for excluding additional disease sites (R).

Indication: No changes to the existing indications.

MBS fee: \$953.00

Benefit: No change.

Deleted item 61316 - Gated Cardiac Blood Pool Study, with intervention, with planar imaging and single photon emission tomography, OR planar imaging, or single photon emission tomography (R)

Indications combined into item 61314.

Deleted item 61317- Gated Cardiac Blood Pool Study, with intervention and first pass blood flow study or cardiac shunt study, with planar imaging and single photon emission tomography OR planar imaging, or single photon emission tomography (R)

Indications combined into item 61314.

Deleted item 61320 - Cardiac First Pass Blood Flow Study or Cardiac Shunt Study, not being a service to which another item in this Group applies (R)

Indications combined into item 61314

Deleted item 61352 - Liver and Spleen Study (colloid) - planar imaging (R)

Considered obsolete.

Deleted item 61401 - Testicular Study (R)

Considered obsolete.

Deleted item 61405 - Brain Study with Blood Brain Barrier Agent, with planar imaging and single photon emission tomography, OR planar imaging, or single photon emission tomography (R))

Considered obsolete.



Deleted item 61417 - Cerebro-Spinal Fluid Shunt Patency Study (R)

Considered obsolete.

Deleted item 61437 - Whole Body Study using thallium (R)

Considered obsolete.

Deleted item 61458 – Localised Study using thallium (R)

Considered obsolete.

Deleted item 61484 – Adrenal Study (R)

Considered obsolete.

To view previous item descriptors and deleted items, visit MBS Online at www.mbsonline.gov.au, navigate to 'Downloads' and then select the relevant time period at the bottom of the page. The old items can then be viewed by downloading the MBS files published in the month before implementation of the changes

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 sheet is current as of the Last updated date shown below, and does not account for MBS changes since that date.