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 <u>Attachment A</u>

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. You can also subscribe to future MBS updates by visiting MBS Online 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. Detailed information on the MBS item listing within clinical categories is available on the Department's website. 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. If you have a query in relation to private health insurance, you should email PHI@health.gov.au.

Subscribe to 'News for Health Professionals' 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** 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.

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