

Older Adult Health Conditions In Residential Aged Care

MBS in RACFs, Practice Assist and Primary Care Resources

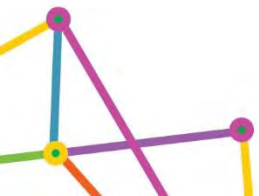
Sharon Good, Primary Care Navigation Manager

29 June 2021





WA Primary Health Alliance acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners and Elders of this country and recognises the significant importance of their cultural heritage, values and beliefs and how these contribute to the positive health and wellbeing of the whole community.

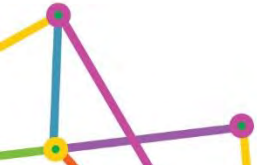


Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) items for:

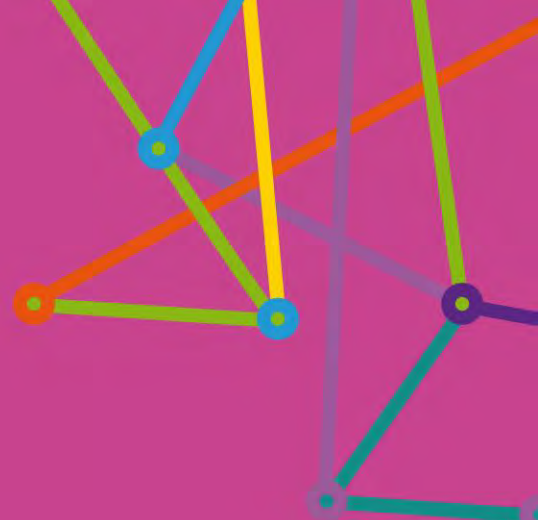
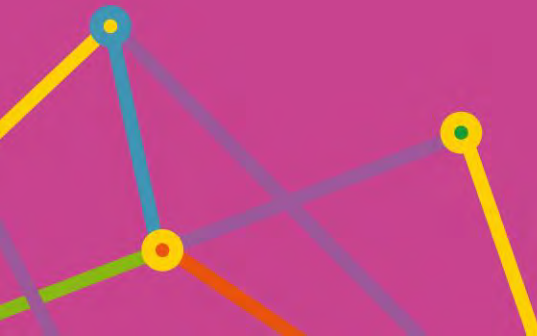
- Attendance items for general practitioners and other medical practitioners into Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACFs)
- Better Access Mental Health Treatment Plans MBS items for RACFs
- Chronic Disease Management MBS items for RACFs
- COVID-19 Vaccine suitability items for RACFs
- Advanced Care Plan suitable MBS item numbers for RACFs

GP Aged Care Access Incentive Changes

WAPHA Practice Assist and Primary Care Resources



MBS Attendance items for RACFs



MBS – Attendance and Consultation Items in RACFs

- The MBS item numbers for face to face consultations in RACFs were updated in 2019. The new items simplify claims for RACF services, and replace the derived fee payment model.
- Item numbers for consultations in Group A1 are based on Levels A-D, and consultations in Group A2 are time and location based with practitioners in Modified Monash areas 2-7 having access to higher rebates. Bulk Billing incentives apply to consultation items.

Consultation Item Numbers for GP	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These items are applicable if the patient is a care recipient in a residential aged care facility.• Items are available for face to face attendances and claimable for each patient seen on one occasion.	
Item	Details
90020	Level A
90035	Level B
90043	Level C
90051	Level D

Flag Fall/Call Out Item Numbers for GP and OMP	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These items are applicable if the patient is a care recipient in a residential aged care facility.• Items are available for face to face attendances.	
Item	Type of Practitioner
90001	GP – Vocationally Registered (VR)
90002	Other Medical Practitioner (OMP) including Non-VR GP

- The Flag-Fall items apply to a doctor's initial attendance at a RACF, and are billable only for the first patient seen on each visit. Once a Flag-Fall item is billed, doctors may then bill an applicable consultation item for each of the patients they see.

MBS – Attendance and Consultation Items in RACFs

- The Flag-Fall items cannot be billed with existing derived fee services, including after hours or telehealth services, nor can they be billed with urgent after hours items. Bulk billing (items 10990 and 10991) and rural incentives apply only to attendance items, not to the flag fall items 90001 and 90002.
- Further separate attendances, different day, same day separated by time for different patient or reason, enable an additional Flag-Fall to be claimed.
- Comprehensive Medical Assessment MBS items 701-707 apply for assessment of an eligible patients on admission to an RACF and/or once every 12 months.

Comprehensive Medical Assessment Item Numbers for GP and OMP

- Medical assessment of eligible patient on admission to a residential aged care facility.
- One every 12 months.

Item	Details
701	< 30 minutes
703	30 to 40 minutes
705	45 to 60 minutes
707	> 60 minutes
731	GP contribution to or review of multidisciplinary care plan

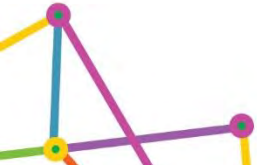
MBS – Attendance and Consultation Items in RACFs

- General Practitioners involvement or organisation of a Multidisciplinary Case Conferences can be claimed using MBS item numbers. Items 735,739 and 743 apply for organisation of a case conference. Items 747,750 and 758 can be claimed for participation in a case conference.

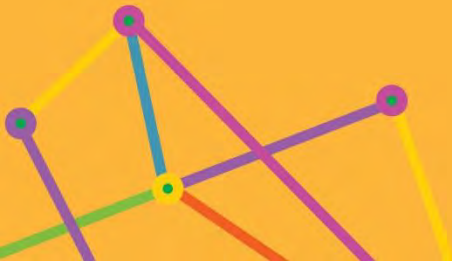
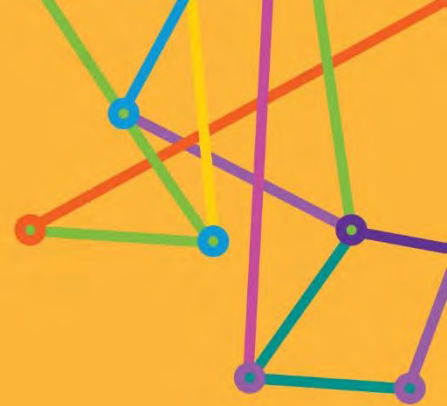
GP or OMP Arranged – Multidisciplinary Case Conference Item Numbers	
Item	Details
735	15 to 20 minutes
739	20 to 40 minutes
743	> 40 minutes

GP or OMP as a Participant – Multidisciplinary Case Conference Item Numbers	
Item	Details
747	15 to 20 minutes
750	20 to 40 minutes
758	> 40 minutes

- Residential Medication Management Reviews can be claimed using item numbers 903 for Group A1 or 249 for Group A2 eligible practitioners.
- After Hours attendance items can be used in the RACF setting, however the Flag-Fall item number cannot be used with derived fee attendances such as item 585 and 594.
- Factsheet: [MBS Attendance Items for RACF's](#)



New MBS Items – Better Access and Chronic Disease Management

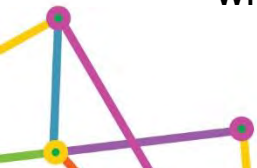


MBS – New Item Numbers

- From 10 December 2020 until 30 June 2022 New MBS items are available for RACF residents. These items are available to general practitioners and allied health professionals to provide care in RACFs for mental health, chronic disease management and physical therapy.
- The Flag-Fall item applies to all face-to-face attendances by either general practitioners or allied health professionals.
- Temporary Telehealth and Phone consultation items are also available. The Flag-Fall items do not apply to these MBS items. Factsheet: [COVID-19 MBS Telehealth Services GPs and OMPs](#). However, information on the status of these item numbers is pending given the end date of 30 June 2021. *EDIT see new MBS Changes factsheet – [COVID-19 Temporary MBS Telehealth Services](#) for changes effective from 1 July 2021 until 31 December 2021.

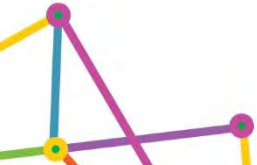
MBS – Better Access Mental Health Treatment Plans in RACFs

- In response to the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety COVID-19 special report recommendations the eligibility for the Better Access initiative has been expanded.
- From 10 December 2020 to 30 June 2022 new MBS items will be available for care recipients in RACFs. This will allow for up to 20 individual treatment services per calendar year for patients with a diagnosed mental disorder who would benefit from a structured approach to the management of their treatment needs.
- These item numbers include items for face-to-face attendances, telehealth and phone consultations. With specific item numbers for the type of consultation.
- Development, review and focused psychological strategy item numbers are available for both general practitioners and other medical practitioners in line with access to Group 1A and 2A.



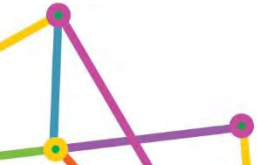
MBS – Better Access Mental Health Treatment Plans in RACFs

- Referrals under Better Access should include;
 - Name
 - Date of birth
 - Address
 - Diagnosis
 - List of any current medications
 - Number of sessions they are being referred for the course of treatment.
- Initial referrals can be for up to 6 sessions. After this a review is required. If clinically indicated, an additional referral for 4 sessions can be given before another review. If further sessions are required an additional 10 sessions can be referred. Giving access to a total of 20 sessions each calendar year.
- Reviews can be claimed every 3 months, however further referrals can be provided within this time using a consultation item number.
- [Mental Health Treatment Plans \(MHTPs\) in RACFs](#) (Fact Sheet)



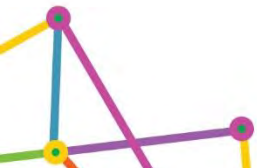
MBS – Chronic Disease Management Plans in RACFs

- If a resident has a chronic disease, they may be eligible for MBS services under a General Practitioner Management Plan (GPMP) and Team Care Arrangements (TCA)
- Item numbers for general practitioners allow for preparation of a multidisciplinary care plan, review or amendment of the plan, along with a specific item number (93470) for health assessment of an care recipient of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.
- Flag-Fall item numbers 90001 or 90002 apply for face to face attendances under MBS item numbers 93469, 93470, 93475 or 93479.



MBS – Chronic Disease Management Plans in RACFs

- Allied health professional item numbers replicate the existing face to face and telehealth items for allied health chronic disease management plan services, Indigenous follow-up services for eligible patients who have received a health assessment, and group assessment services.
- Care recipients who have accessed 5 initial consultations across the included allied health services can access 5 additional services per calendar year for exercise physiology, occupational therapy or physiotherapy with item numbers 93571 - 93573.
- Factsheets:
 - [CDM Allied Health Group Services in RACFs](#)
 - [CDM Allied Health in RACFs](#)
 - [CDM Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Allied Health in RACFs](#)
 - [CDM GP or OMP in RACFs](#)



Other MBS items for use in RACFs

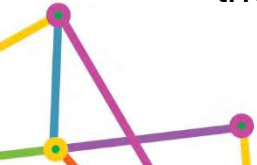


MBS – COVID-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Items

- From March 2021, 16 new Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS) items will be available to enable GPs and suitably qualified health professionals to assess patients for their suitability to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
- COVID-19 vaccine suitability assessment items must be bulk billed and be a face-to-face attendance, in practice, home visit or RACF. A dose of COVID-19 vaccine must be immediately available for administration to the patient in any of these attendances.
- Item numbers are available for in hours, after hours and for locations MMM 1 and MMM 2-7.
- In addition, from 14 June 2021 MBS item 90005 provides a flag-fall fee for an initial attendance at a RACF, residential disability facility setting or a patient's place of residence, on one occasion, applicable only to the first patient seen. To be billed in association with a COVID-19 vaccine suitability assessment service (MBS items 93624 to 93656 inclusive).

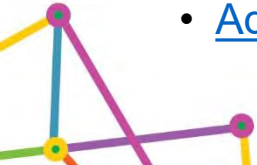
MBS – Advance Care Planning (ACP)

- The RACGP describes ACP as a process of reflection, discussion and communication that enables a person to plan for their future medical treatment and other care, for a time when they are not competent to make, or communicate, decisions for themselves. ([RACGP Advance care planning](#))
- Although often about end-of-life care (the last 12 months) or terminal care (the last days to weeks of life), ACP is a process that all patients can benefit from, especially those at risk of deterioration in health.
- There are no MBS items specifically for ACP, however there are MBS items that may support ACP in general practice.
- MBS items that are available for use with ACP are general consultation items that are applicable to the location of the consultation. For example the item numbers that apply to consultation in RACFs including Flag-Fall if this is where the consultation is conducted.



MBS – Advance Care Planning (ACP)

- MBS items for GP Management and Team care arrangements are also available. The initiation of ACP and/or palliative and supportive care needs assessment, if indicated for the patient, could be incorporated into the planning and review processes.
- MBS Health Assessments for people aged 75 years and over are also available. The initiation of ACP and/or palliative and supportive care needs assessment, could be incorporated into the health assessment process. Patients may also need further follow up GP consultations on a different day after the health assessment if they have complex palliative care needs or require additional time to discuss ACP.
- [Practice Assist Advance Care Planning and supporting MBS items Factsheet.](#)
- [Advance Care Planning in General Practice](#)
- [Advance Care Planning in Aged Care](#)

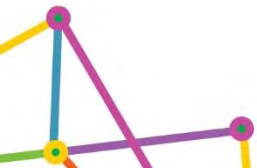




GP Aged Care Access Incentive Changes

GP Aged Care Access Incentive Changes

- Coming into effect from 1 July 2021 changes to the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) GP Aged Care Access Incentive (GP ACAI) mean the *maximum* payment will double to \$10 000 through the introduction of additional qualifying service levels and service incentive payments.
- There are no changes to eligibility for ACAI payments. GPs must, as before:
 - be registered in the PIP at an approved PIP practice;
 - use a Medicare provider number linked to a PIP practice when claiming MBS services in RACFs
 - provide eligible MBS services to residents in RACFs
 - reach the Qualifying Service Level by providing the required number of MBS services in RACFs in a financial year.



GP Aged Care Access Incentive Changes

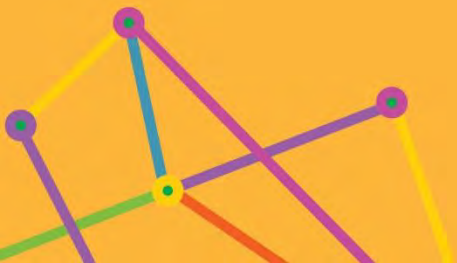
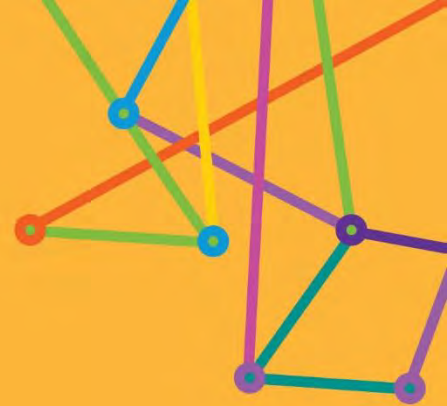
- GPs will receive increasing and accumulative service incentive payments based on the number of eligible items delivered to patients in a financial year:
 - Tier 1a): 60-99 services for \$2,000;
 - Tier 1b): 100-139 services for \$2,500;
 - Tier 2a): 140-179 services for \$2,500; and
 - Tier 2b): 180+ services for \$3,000.

For example, if a GP delivers 100 Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) services to patients in RACFs in 2021/22 (single financial year), they will receive a (total) payment of \$4,500 (\$2,000 for delivering 60 services + \$2,500 for delivering 100 services).

More information

- Media Release 28 June 2021: <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/gp-access-to-strengthen-health-and-wellbeing-in-aged-care>
- Email: pip@humanservices.gov.au
- Phone PIP Enquiry Line: 1800 222 032
- [Practice Incentives Program Guidelines](#)

Practice Assist and Primary Care Resources



Practice Assist - Resources

- WAPHA's Practice Assist Service has a range of resources on MBS, COVID-19, National Programs, and more. Our Website is <https://www.practiceassist.com.au/>
- The Medicare Benefits Schedule page in the Tool Kit has links to our current suite of six Factsheets on MBS items for use in RACFs.
<https://www.practiceassist.com.au/The-Tool-Kit/Medicare-Australia>
 - For GP and OMP attendance items for use in RACF's [MBS Attendance Items for RACF's](#)
 - [CDM Allied Health Group Services in RACFs](#) [CDM Allied Health in RACFs](#)
 - [CDM ATSI Allied Health in RACFs](#)
 - [CDM GP or OMP in RACFs](#)
 - [Mental Health Treatment Plans \(MHTPs\) in RACFs](#)

Practice Assist - Resources

The [Practice Assist Resource Library](#) can be used to look up factsheets in the areas of:

- Business Management
- Clinical Resource
- COVID-19
- Digital Health
- GP Accreditation
- HR and Staff Management
- MBS
- Nurses in general practice
- Practice Incentives Programs
- Programs and National Schemes

Other factsheets of interest:

- [Advance Care Planning \(ACP\) and supporting MBS items](#)
- [MBS Health Assessment for people aged 75 years and older](#)

Practice Assist

- Toll-free help desk: 1800 2 ASSIST (1800 2 277 478)
- Email: practiceassist@wapha.org.au
- Website: practiceassist.com.au

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Other Useful Resources

- Medicare Factsheets are also available via [MBS Online Factsheets](#)
 - [COVID-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Service](#)
 - [Flag-Fall Arrangements for COVID-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Services](#)
 - [Extending Mental Health Support For Aged Care Residents During Covid-19](#)
 - [Temporary COVID-19 Allied Health Support Services and GP/OMP Services for Aged Care Residents.](#)
 - [Factsheet for Additional 10 MBS Mental Health Sessions](#)
 - [New arrangements for GP Residential Aged Care Facility \(RACF\) services](#)
 - [MBS Comprehensive medical assessment for residents of residential aged care facilities](#)
- If you have a query relating exclusively to interpretation of the Schedule, you should email askMBS@health.gov.au.
- If you are seeking advice in relation to Medicare billing, claiming, or payments please contact Services Australia on the Provider Enquiry Line - 13 21 50

