



Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – Mechanical Thrombectomy) Determination 2017

I, MICHAEL RYAN, delegate of the Minister for Health, make this Determination under subsection 3C(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

Dated 27 September 2017

MICHAEL RYAN
Acting Assistant Secretary
MBS Policy and Specialist Services Branch
Medical Benefits Division
Department of Health

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1. Name of Determination

This Determination is the *Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – Mechanical Thrombectomy) Determination 2017*.

2. Commencement

This Determination commences on 1 November 2017.

3. Authority

This Determination is made under subsection 3C(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

4. Definitions

(1) In this Determination:

Act means the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

eligible stroke centre means a facility that:

- (a) has a designated stroke unit;
- (b) is equipped and has staff available or on call so that it is capable of providing the following to a patient on a 24-hour basis:
 - (i) the services of a specialist or consultant physician who has the training required under paragraph (b) of item 35414;
 - (ii) diagnostic imaging services using advanced imaging techniques, which must include computed tomography, computed tomography angiography, digital subtraction angiography, magnetic resonance imaging, and magnetic resonance angiography; and
 - (iii) care from a team of health practitioners which includes a stroke physician, a neurologist, a neurosurgeon, a radiologist, an anaesthetist, an intensive care unit specialist, a medical imaging technologist, and a nurse;
- (c) has dedicated endovascular angiography facilities; and
- (d) has written procedures for assessing and treating patients who have, or may have, experienced a stroke.

Note: A health practitioner may fulfil the role of more than one of the types of health practitioner specified in paragraph (b)(iii). For example, a neurologist may also be a stroke physician.

relevant provisions means all provisions, of the Act and regulations made under the Act, and the *National Health Act 1953* and regulations made under the *National Health Act 1953*, relating to medical services, professional services or items.

relevant service means a health service, as defined in subsection 3C(8) of the Act, that is specified in a Schedule.

Schedule means a Schedule to this Determination.

Note: The following terms are defined in subsection 3(1) of the Act:

- clinically relevant service

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- item
 - general medical services table
 - professional service

- (2) Unless the contrary intention appears, a reference in this Determination to a provision of the Act or the *National Health Act 1953* or regulations made under the Act or under the *National Health Act 1953* as applied, adopted or incorporated in relation to specifying a matter is a reference to those provisions as in force from time to time and any other reference to provisions of an Act or regulations is a reference to those provisions as in force from time to time.

5. Treatment of relevant services

For subsection 3C(1) of the Act a relevant service, provided in accordance with this Determination and as a clinically relevant service, is to be treated, for the relevant provisions, as if:

- (a) it were both a professional service and a medical service; and
- (b) there were an item in the general medical services table that:
 - (i) related to the service; and
 - (ii) specified for the service a fee in relation to each State, being the fee specified in the Schedule in relation to the service.

6. Application of provisions of the general medical services table

- (1) Clause 1.2.1 of the general medical services table shall have effect as if item 35414 were specified in Part 2 of the general medical services table.
- (2) Clause 1.2.4 of the general medical services table shall have effect as if item 35414 were also specified in subclause 1.2.4(1).
- (3) Clause 1.2.5 of the general medical services table shall have effect as if item 35414 were also specified in subclause 1.2.5(1).
- (4) Clause 2.44.2 of the general medical services table shall have effect as if item 35414 were specified in Group T8 of the general medical services table.

Schedule 1 – relevant services

Group T8 – Surgical operations

Subgroup 3 - Vascular

Subheading 13 – Interventional Radiology Procedures

Item	Service	Fee (\$)
35414	<p>Mechanical thrombectomy, in a patient with a diagnosis of acute ischaemic stroke caused by occlusion of a large vessel of the anterior cerebral circulation, including intra-operative imaging and aftercare, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the diagnosis is confirmed by an appropriate imaging modality such as computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging or angiography; and(b) the service is performed by a specialist or consultant physician with appropriate training that is recognised by the Conjoint Committee for Recognition of Training in Interventional Neuroradiology; and(c) the service is provided in an eligible stroke centre. <p>For any particular patient - applicable once per presentation by the patient at an eligible stroke centre, regardless of the number of times mechanical thrombectomy is attempted during that presentation (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)</p>	3,500.00
