

Health Insurance (General Practice COVID-19 Management Support Service) Determination 2021

I, Travis Haslam, delegate of the Minister for Health and Aged Care, make the following determination.

Dated 3 November 2021

Travis Haslam

Acting First Assistant Secretary

Medical Benefits Division

Health Resourcing Group

Department of Health

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1. Name

This instrument is the *Health Insurance (General Practice COVID-19 Management Support Service) Determination 2021.*

2. Commencement

(1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

| **Commencement information** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Column 1** | **Column 2** | **Column 3** |
| **Provisions** | **Commencement** | **Date/Details** |
| 1. The whole of this instrument | 8 November 2021 |  |

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

(2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this instrument. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this instrument.

3. Authority

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

4. Cessation

Unless earlier revoked, this instrument ceases as if revoked on 30 June 2022.

5. Definitions

(1) In this instrument:

***Act***means the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

***admitted patient*** means a patient who is receiving a service that is provided:

(a)  as part of an episode of hospital treatment; or

(b) as part of an episode of hospital‑substitute treatment in respect of which the person to whom the treatment is provided chooses to receive a benefit from a private health insurer.

***general medical services table***means the table prescribed under section 4 of the Act as in force from time to time.

***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 instrument.

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

* clinically relevant service;
* general medical services table;
* hospital-substitute treatment;
* hospital treatment;
* item;
* medical practitioner;
* professional service.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, a reference in this instrument 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.

(3) In this instrument, a ***general practitioner*** includes a kind of medical practitioner specified in clause 1.1.3 of the general medical services table.

6. Treatment of relevant service

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

* + 1. it were both a professional service and a medical service; and
    2. there were an item in the general medical services table that:
    3. related to the service; and
    4. specified for the service a fee in relation to each State, being the fee specified in the Schedule in relation to the service.

7. Application of COVID-19 management support service

An item in the Schedule only applies to a service if the attendance is performed in person by the medical practitioner.

8. Limitation of COVID-19 management support service

1. An item in a Schedule does not apply to a service mentioned in the item if the person is an admitted patient.
2. An item in the Schedule does not apply if it is performed in association with a service to which any of the following items applies:
   * 1. items 173, 193, 197, 199 of the general medical services table;
     2. an item in subgroups 5, 6 or 9 of Group A7 of the *Health Insurance (Section 3C General Medical Services – Other Medical Practitioner) Determination 2018*;
     3. an item in Group A14 of the general medical services table;
     4. items 721, 723, 729, 731, 732, 735, 739, 743, 747, 750 or 758 of the general medical services table;
     5. an item in Group A20 of the general medical services table.

Schedule – relevant service

| **Group A46—** **COVID-19 management support service** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Description** | **Fee ($)** |
| 93715 | Attendance by a medical practitioner (other than a specialist or consultant physician) for the assessment and management of a person with COVID-19 infection of recent onset and confirmed by laboratory testing | 29.40 |