



medicare

Practice nurse items

MBS items 10983, 10984, 10986, 10987, 10997 and 16400

Quick reference guide for GPs and practice nurses

This document should be used as a guide only. The Department of Human Services (Human Services) recommends health professionals exercise their own skill and care with respect to its contents. It is recommended that the document is read together with the relevant Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) item descriptors and explanatory notes.

This guide explains the key Human Services requirements for claiming services provided by a practice nurse on behalf of a GP. The term 'GP' is used in this guide as a generic reference to medical practitioners able to claim these items.

Note: These items do not apply for admitted patients of a hospital and must be provided under GP supervision.

Item	Service	Snapshot of key Human Services requirements
10986	Healthy Kids Check	<p>Assessment of a child's physical health, general well-being and development, with the purpose of initiating medical interventions as appropriate.</p> <p>Must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Height and weight (plot and interpret growth curve/calculate BMI) (b) Eyesight (c) Hearing (d) Oral health (teeth and gums) (e) Toileting (f) Allergies <p>Only available to children aged three and four years that have received, or are receiving, their four year old immunisation. This item does not apply in circumstances where a parent/guardian chooses not to immunise their child.</p> <p>This item is not payable for children who have previously received a Healthy Kids Check under MBS items 701, 703, 705 or 707 and is claimable once only per eligible patient.</p>

Item	Service	Snapshot of key Human Services requirements
10987	Follow up service for an Indigenous patient who has received a health check (assessment)	<p>Services provided by a practice nurse under Item 10987, is consistent with the needs identified in the patient's health check and is provided between further consultations with the patient's GP.</p> <p>This can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • checks on clinical progress and service access • education on medication compliance and monitoring; • examinations/interventions as indicated by the health check • taking a medical history • education, monitoring and counselling activities and lifestyle advice • prevention advice for chronic conditions, and associated follow up. <p>Services are only available to Indigenous patients who have received a health check (including MBS Item 715) or children who have received a health check as part of the Northern Territory Emergency Response and is claimable for up to ten services per patient in a calendar year.</p>
10997	Monitoring and support for a person with chronic disease	<p>Under Item 10997 a practice nurse provides monitoring and support service to a person with a chronic disease care plan, consistent with the scope of the care plan, provided between the more structured reviews of the care plan by the patient's usual GP.</p> <p>This can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • checks on clinical progress • monitoring medication compliance • self management advice • collection of information to support GP reviews of Care Plans. <p>Services are available to patients with a GP Management Plan, Team Care Arrangements or Multidisciplinary Care Plan in place (MBS items 721, 723, 729, 731, 732) and claimable for up to five services per patient in a calendar year.</p>
Item	Service	Snapshot of key Human Services requirements
16400	Antenatal service	<p>Antenatal service is provided by a nurse at, or from, an eligible practice location in a regional, rural or remote area.</p> <p>Item 16400 cannot be claimed together with another antenatal attendance item for the same patient, on the same day by the same practitioner.</p> <p>Claimable for up to ten services per patient per pregnancy.</p>
10983	Telehealth—patient-end clinical support service by a practice nurse	<p>Under Item 10983 a practice nurse provides clinical support service to a patient undertaking an eligible MBS video (Telehealth) consultation with a specialist, consultant physician or psychiatrist.</p> <p>The patient, at the time of the consultation, must be outside an inner metropolitan area, with the following exceptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Patients receiving a service from an Aboriginal Medical Service, or b) Patients receiving a service from an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service to which a direction made under subsection 19(2) of the <i>Health Insurance Act 1973</i> applies. <p>The decision to provide clinical support to the patient must be made in consultation with the specialist, consultant physician or psychiatrist.</p>

Item	Service	Snapshot of key Human Services requirements
10984	Telehealth—patient-end clinical support service by a practice nurse at a residential aged care facility	<p>Under Item 10984 a practice nurse provides clinical support service to a patient undertaking an eligible MBS video (Telehealth) consultation with a specialist, consultant physician or psychiatrist.</p> <p>The patient, at the time of the consultation, must be either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a care recipient receiving care in a residential aged care service (other than a self-contained unit), or b) at consulting rooms situated within such a complex if they are a care recipient receiving care in a residential aged care service (excluding accommodation in a self-contained unit). <p>The decision to provide clinical support to the patient must be made in consultation with the specialist, consultant physician or psychiatrist.</p>

Can I bill a GP attendance item and practice nurse item?

It is up to the GP to decide whether they need to see the patient. Where the GP has a separate consultation with the patient, then the GP is entitled to claim a Medicare item for the time and complexity of their personal attendance on the patient. The time the patient spends receiving a service (as listed in this guide) from the practice nurse is not to be included when determining the duration for the GP attendance item.

If during a video (Telehealth) consultation, the practice nurse requests the attendance of the GP (or vice-versa), only one item is billable for the patient-end support service (either the GP attendance or practice nurse attendance item). Where a patient-end GP Telehealth attendance item is claimed, any time the practice nurse spends with the patient is not to be included when determining the duration for the GP attendance item.

For more information

Online mbsonline.gov.au

humanservices.gov.au/health-professional then **Doing business with Medicare > Online education services**

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