**AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE**

***HEALTH INSURANCE ACT 1973***

**Health Insurance (Medicare Benefits Payable in Respect of Professional Services – Council of Australian Governments’ Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative – New South Wales) Direction 2024**

I, Louise Riley, Acting First Assistant Secretary, Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division, Health Resourcing Group, delegate for the Minister for Health, acting under subsection 19(2) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973,* hereby:

1. REVOKE the Direction made under subsection 19(2) of the Act titled *Health Insurance (Medicare Benefits Payable in Respect of Professional Services – Council of Australian Governments’ Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative – New South Wales) Direction 2023* that was granted on 25 August 2023, that Medicare benefits shall be payable in respect of professional services provided by health services in New South Wales that are a part of the Council of Australian Governments’ *Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative*, as described in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian Government and New South Wales dated 13 May 2022; and
2. DIRECT that Medicare Benefits shall be payable in respect of:
3. A professional service (as defined in Section 3 of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*)which has been agreed to be providedunder the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Health and Aged Care (ABN: 83 605 426 759) and the NSW Ministry of Health (ABN: 92 697 899 630) dated 13 May 2022 as part of the Council of Australian Governments’ *Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative* relating to primary care services for which:
	1. items specified in Schedule A of this Direction; and of the general medical services table (means the table prescribed under subsection 4(1) of *the Health Insurance Act 1973*), diagnostic imaging services table (means the table prescribed under subsection 4AA(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*) and pathology services table (means the table prescribed under subsection 4A(1) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*) relates; and
4. where the profession service is provided to:
	1. an eligible person (as defined in Section 3 of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*); and
	2. a patient who is not part of an episode of hospital treatment (as defined in Section 121-5 of the *Private Health Insurance Act 2007*); and
5. The professional service referred to in paragraph (2)(a):
	1. is provided at an approved Modified Monash Model 5-7 area (as defined in Section 7.1.1 of the general medical services table) practice location specified in Schedule B; and
	2. is either:
		1. a professional non-referred service provided by a state remunerated medical practitioner, participating midwife, or participating nurse practitioner; or
		2. a professional referred service provided by a state remunerated allied health and dental health practitioner.

DECLARED that this Direction commences on 3 June 2024 and ceases to have effect at the end of 30 June 2025 unless earlier revoked.

Date this 23 day of May 2024

Louise Riley

Acting First Assistant Secretary

Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division

Health Resourcing Group

Department of Health and Aged Care

**SCHEDULE A**

**MEDICARE BENEFITS SCHEDULE ITEMS At Approved Practice Locations AS AGREED under the Council of Australian Governments’ Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative – queensland**

For services listed in the below tables, all provisions of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* (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 apply.

**General Medical Services Table**

| **Group**  | **Group Name**  | **Subgroup**  | **Subgroup Name** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A1  | General practitioner attendances to which no other item applies  |
| A2 | Other non-referred attendances to which no other item applies |
| A5 | Prolonged attendances to which no other item applies |
| A6 | Group Therapy |
| A7 | Acupuncture and non-specialist practitioner items |
| A9 | Contact lenses – attendances  |
| A10 | Optometrical services provided by an optometrist |
| A11 | Urgent attendance after hours |
| A14 | Health assessments |
| A15 | GP management plans, team care arrangements, multidisciplinary care plans | 1 | GP management plans, team care arrangements and multidisciplinary care plans |
| A17 | Domiciliary and residential management reviews |
| A20 | General Practitioner mental health treatment |
| A22 | General Practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies |
| A23 | Other non-referred after-hours attendances to which no other item applies |
| A27 | Pregnancy support counselling |
| A35 | Services for patients in Residential Aged Care Facilities |
| A40 | Telehealth and phone attendance services  | 1 | General practice telehealth services  |
| 2 | General practice phone services  |
| 3 | Focussed psychological strategies telehealth services  |
| 10 | Focussed psychological strategies phone services  |
| 11 | Health assessments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People - telehealth services  |
| 13 | GP management plans, team care arrangements and multidisciplinary care plans via telehealth attendance  |
| 15 | GP pregnancy support counselling telehealth services  |
| 16 | GP pregnancy support counselling phone services  |
| 19 | GP mental health treatment plan telehealth services  |
| 20 | GP mental health treatment plan phone services  |
| 21 | GP Eating Disorder Treatment and Management Plan telehealth services |
| 27 | GP - Eating Disorder Focussed Psychological Strategies telehealth services |
| 28 | GP - Eating Disorder Focussed Psychological Strategies phone services |
| 29 | GP and Other Medical Practitioner urgent after-hours service in unsociable hours telehealth services |
| 39 | GP Blood Borne Viruses, Sexual or Reproductive Health Consultation – Telehealth Service |
| 40 | GP Blood Borne Viruses, Sexual or Reproductive Health Consultation – Phone Service |
| A46  | COVID-19 management support service |
| M1 | Management of bulk-billed services | 1 | Management of General Bulk Billed Services |
| 2 | General Support Service |
| 3 | Patients enrolled in MyMedicare |
| M3 | Allied Health services |
| M6 | Psychological therapy services |
| M7 | Focussed psychological strategies |
| M8 | Pregnancy support counselling |
| M9 | Allied Health group services |
| M10 | Complex neurodevelopmental disorder and disability services |
| M11 | Allied Health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people |
| M12 | Services provided by a Practice Nurse or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner on behalf of a medical practitioner |
| M14 | Nurse Practitioners |
| M15 | Diagnostic audiology services |
| M16 | Eating Disorder services |
| M18 | Allied health telehealth services | 1 | Psychological therapies telehealth services |
| 2 | Psychologist focussed psychological strategies telehealth services |
| 3 | Occupational therapist focussed psychological strategies telehealth services |
| 4 | Social worker focussed psychological strategies telehealth services |
| 5 | Nurse practitioner telehealth services |
| 6 | Psychological therapies phone services |
| 7 | Psychologist focussed psychological strategies phone service |
| 8 | Occupational therapist focussed psychological strategies phone services |
| 9 | Social worker focussed psychological strategies phone services |
| 10 | Nurse practitioner phone services |
| 11 | General allied health telehealth services |
| 12 | General allied health phone services |
| 13 | Pregnancy support counselling telehealth services |
| 14 | Pregnancy support counselling phone services |
| 15 | Complex neurodevelopmental disorder and disability telehealth services |
| 16 | Complex neurodevelopmental disorder and disability phone services |
| 17 | Telehealth attendance to person of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent |
| 18 | Phone attendance to person of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent |
| 23 | Follow up service provided by a practice nurse or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner – Telehealth Services |
| 25 | Allied health, group dietetics telehealth services |
| 26 | Allied health, group dietetics phone services |
| T1 | Miscellaneous therapeutic procedures | 6 | Gastroenterology |

***General Medical Services Table – permitted items***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Group Name** | **Items** | **Item overview**  |
| A15 | GP management plans, team care arrangements and multidisciplinary care plans | 735, 739, 743, 747-758, 930-945 | Case conferences |
| A29 | Attendance services for complex neurodevelopmental disorder or disability | 139 | Professional attendance by a general practitioner for assessment, diagnosis and preparation of a treatment and management plan for a patient with an eligible disability. |
| A36 | Eating disorder services | 90250-90257, 90264, 90265, 90271-90282 | Eating disorder services provided by General Practitioners or Medical Practitioners |
| A40 | Telehealth and phone attendance services | 92142, 92170, 92171, 92176, 92177 | General Practitioner and Prescribed Medical Practitioner items |
| A44 | General Practice attendance for assessing patient suitability for a COVID-19 vaccine | 93645, 93647, 93654, 93656, 93661, 93666, 10660, 10661 | General Practice Attendance for Assessing Patient Suitability for a COVID-19 Vaccine |
| D1 | Miscellaneous diagnostic procedures and investigations | 11300-11318, 11505, 11506, 11602-11615, 11707, 11729, 11730, 12001-12004, 12012, 12017, 12200, 12306, 12312, 12315, 12320-12322, 12325, 12326 | Non-referred services only |
| D2 | Nuclear Medicine (non-imaging) | 12500, 12524, 12527 | Nuclear Medicine (non-imaging) |
| M13 | Midwifery services | 82100-82115, 82130-82140 | Midwifery items |
| T1 | Miscellaneous therapeutic procedures | 13105, 14206 | Haemodialysis provided by a registered nurse, Aboriginal health worker or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner in a very remote location.Hormone or living tissues implantation by cannula |
| T4 | Obstetrics | 16400, 16406-16500, 16502-16514, 16530, 16590, 16591, 91850-91858  | Antenatal and postnatal attendances |
| T8 | Surgical operations | 30003, 30006, 30023, 30026-30055, 30061-30072, 30107, 30192-30207, 30216, 30219, 31356, 32072, 32147, 35503, 41500, 47015, 47042, 47057, 47069, 47301, 47348, 47354, 47361, 47387, 47423, 47444, 47453, 47462, 47466, 47471, 47543, 47561, 47579, 47595, 47663, 47735, 47904, 47915, 47916, 47918 | Minor surgical procedures |
| O1 | Consultations | 51700- 51703, 54001-54004 | Dental practitioner attendances |

***Diagnostic Imaging Services Table***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Group Name** |
| I1 | Ultrasound |
| I3 | Diagnostic radiology |
| I6 | Management of bulk-billed services |

***Pathology Services Table***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Group Name** |
| P9 | Simple basic pathology tests |
| P12 | Management of bulk-billed services |
| P13 | Bulk-billing incentive |

**SCHEDULE B**

**Approved Practice Locations AS AGREED under the Council of Australian Governments’ Improving Access to Primary Care in Rural and Remote Areas – COAG s19(2) Exemptions Initiative – New South Wales**

Approved locations:

| **Location** | **Practice Name** | **Legal Name** | **Street Address** | **Mailing Address** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Balranald | Balranald Multi-Purpose Service | Far West Local Health District | 41-43 Court StreetBalranald NSW 2715 | 41-43 Court StreetBalranald NSW 2715 |
| Barham | Barham Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 80 Punt RoadBarham NSW 2732 | 80 Punt RoadBarham NSW 2732 |
| Batlow | Batlow-Adelong Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 61-81 Pioneer Street Batlow NSW 2730 | 61-81 Pioneer StreetBatlow NSW 2730 |
| Berrigan | Berrigan Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 47-49 Davis StreetBerrigan NSW 2712 | 47-49 Davis StreetBerrigan NSW 2712 |
| Bingara | Bingara Multi-Purpose Service | Hunter New England Local Health District | Copeton Dam RoadBingara NSW 2404 | Copeton Dam RoadBingara NSW 2404 |
| Blayney | Blayney Health Service | Western NSW Local Health District | 3 Osman StreetBlayney NSW 2799 | 3 Osman StreetBlayney NSW 2799 |
| Bonalbo | Bonalbo Multi-Purpose Service | Northern NSW Local Health District | Hospital Road Bonalbo NSW 2469 | Hospital RoadBonalbo NSW 2469 |
| Boorowa | Boorowa Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 62-80 Dry Street Boorowa NSW 2586 | 62-80 Dry StreetBoorowa NSW 2586 |
| Coolamon | Coolamon-Ganmain Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 1 Doctor Buchanan DriveCoolamon NSW 2701 | 1 Doctor Buchanan DriveCoolamon NSW 2701 |
| Culcairn | Culcairn Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 51-55 Balfour StreetCulcairn NSW 2660 | 51-55 Balfour StreetCulcairn NSW 2660 |
| Dareton | Dareton Primary and Community Health Centre | Far West Local Health District | 42-44 Tapio AvenueDareton NSW 2717 | 42-44 Tapio AvenueDareton NSW 2717 |
| Dungog | Dungog Community Hospital | Hunter New England Local Health District | 22 Hospital RoadDungog NSW 2420 | 22 Hospital RoadDungog NSW 2420 |
| Finley | Finley Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 24 Dawe AvenueFinley NSW 2713 | 24 Dawe AvenueFinley NSW 2713 |
| Gloucester | Gloucester Soldiers Memorial Hospital & Gloucester Community Health Centre | Hunter New England Local Health District | Church StreetGloucester NSW 2422 | Church StreetGloucester NSW 2422 |
| Gundagai | Gundagai Health (Multi-Purpose) Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 50 Tor StreetGundagai NSW 2722 | 50 Tor StreetGundagai NSW 2722 |
| Guyra | Guyra Multi-Purpose Service | Hunter New England Local Health District  | 44-48 Sole StreetGuyra NSW 2365 | 44-48 Sole StreetGuyra NSW 2365 |
| Harden | Murrumburrah-Harden Hospital and Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 53 Scott StreetHarden NSW 2587 | 53 Scott StreetHarden NSW 2587 |
| Hay | Hay District Hospital | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 351 Murray StHay NSW 2711 | 351 Murray StHay NSW 2711 |
| Henty | Henty Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 7 Keighran StreetHenty NSW 2658 | 7 Keighran StreetHenty NSW 2658 |
| Hillston | Hillston Hospital and Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 48C Burns StreetHillston NSW 2675 | 48C Burns StreetHillston NSW 2675 |
| Holbrook | Holbrook Hospital | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 30 Bowler StreetHolbrook NSW 2644 | 30 Bowler StreetHolbrook NSW 2644 |
| Jerilderie | Jerilderie Hospital and Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 33-39 Southey Street Jerilderie NSW 2716 | PO Box 116Jerilderie NSW 2716 |
| Junee | Junee Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 67 Broadway StreetJunee NSW 2663 | 67 Broadway StreetJunee NSW 2663 |
| Kyogle | Kyogle Multi-Purpose Service | Northern NSW Local Health District | Summerland Way Kyogle NSW 2474 | Summerland WayKyogle NSW 2474 |
| Lake Cargelligo | Lake Cargelligo Hospital and Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 34 Uabba StreetLake Cargelligo NSW 2672 | 34 Uabba StreetLake Cargelligo NSW 2672 |
| Lockhart | Lockhart Hospital and Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 53-55 Hebden StreetLockhart NSW 2656 | 53-55 Hebden StreetLockhart NSW 2656 |
| Manilla | Manilla Multi-Purpose Service | Hunter New England Local Health District  | Court StreetManilla NSW 2346 | Court StreetManilla NSW 2346 |
| Merriwa | Merriwa Multi-Purpose Service | Hunter New England Local Health District | Mackenzie StreetMerriwa NSW 2329 | Mackenzie StreetMerriwa NSW 2329 |
| Murrurundi | Wilson Memorial Community Hospital Murrurundi & Murrurundi Community Health Centre | Hunter New England Local Health District | Corner Paradise and O'Connell StreetsMurrurundi NSW 2338 | PO Box 8Murrurundi NSW 2338 |
| Narrandera | Narrandera Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 54 Adams StreetNarrandera NSW 2700 | 54 Adams StreetNarrandera NSW 2700 |
| Nimbin | Nimbin Multi-Purpose Service | Northern NSW Local Health District | 35 Cullen StreetNimbin NSW 2480 | 35 Cullen StreetNimbin NSW 2480 |
| Nyngan | Nyngan Hospital and Community Health Service | Western NSW Local Health District | Hoskins StreetNyngan NSW 2825 | PO Box 96 Nyngan NSW 2825 |
| Oberon | Oberon Health Service | Western NSW Local Health District | North StreetOberon NSW 2787 | North StreetOberon NSW 2787 |
| Quirindi | Quirindi Health Service | Hunter New England Local Health District | 50 Nowland StreetQuirindi NSW 2343 | 50 Nowland StreetQuirindi NSW 2343 |
| Rylstone | Rylstone Multi-Purpose Service | Western NSW Local Health District | Fitzgerald StreetRylstone NSW 2849 | Fitzgerald StreetRylstone NSW 2849 |
| Temora | Temora Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 169-189 Loftus StreetTemora NSW 2666 | 169-189 Loftus Street Temora NSW 2666 |
| Tocumwal | Tocumwal Health Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 6-12 Adams StreetTocumwal NSW 2714 | 6-12 Adams StreetTocumwal NSW 2714 |
| Tottenham | Tottenham Multi-Purpose Service | Western NSW Local Health District | 10 Moondana StreetTottenham NSW 2873 | 10 Moondana StreetTottenham NSW 2873 |
| Trangie | Trangie Multi-Purpose Service | Western NSW Local Health District | 28 Harris StreetTrangie NSW 2823 | 28 Harris StreetTrangie NSW 2823 |
| Trundle | Trundle Multi-Purpose Service | Western NSW Local Health District | 44 Brookview StreetTrundle NSW 2875 | 44 Brookview StreetTrundle NSW 2875 |
| Tullamore | Tullamore Multi-Purpose Service | Western NSW Local Health District | Kitchener StreetTullamore NSW 2874 | Kitchener StreetTullamore NSW 2874 |
| Tumbarumba | Tumbarumba Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 4 Mitchell Street Tumbarumba NSW 2653 | 4 Mitchell StreetTumbarumba NSW 2653 |
| Urana | Urana Health Multi-Purpose Service | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 127-129 Princess StreetUrana NSW 2645 | 127-129 Princess StreetUrana NSW 2645 |
| Urbenville | Urbenville Multi-Purpose Service | Northern NSW Local Health District | 45 Beaury StreetUrbenville NSW 2475 | 45 Beaury StreetUrbenville NSW 2475 |
| Warialda | Warialda Multi-Purpose Service | Hunter New England Local Health District | Long StreetWarialda NSW 2402 | Long StreetWarialda NSW 2402 |
| Wee Waa | Wee Waa Community Hospital & Wee Waa Community Health Centre | Hunter New England Local Health District | 60 Alma StreetWee Waa NSW 2388 | PO Box 417Wee Waa NSW 2388 |
| West Wyalong | West Wyalong Hospital | Murrumbidgee Local Health District | 70 Ungarie RoadWest Wyalong NSW 2671 | 70 Ungarie RoadWest Wyalong NSW 2671 |