

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

HEALTH INSURANCE ACT 1973

Health Insurance (Medicare Benefits Payable in Respect of Professional Services – Commonwealth Medicare Urgent Care Clinic Program – Victoria) Direction (No. 2) 2024

I, Nigel Murray, Assistant Secretary, MBS Policy and Specialist Programs Branch, Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division, Health Resourcing Group, delegate for the Minister for Health and Aged Care, acting under subsection 19(2) of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* (the Act), hereby:

- (1) REPEAL the *Health Insurance (Medicare Benefits Payable in Respect of Professional Services – Commonwealth Urgent Care Clinic Program – Victoria) Direction 2024*; and
- (2) DIRECT that Medicare Benefits shall be payable in respect of:
 - (a) A professional service (as defined in section 3 of the Act which has been agreed to be provided:
 - (i) under a Schedule to the Federation Funding Agreement executed on 28 June 2023 between the Commonwealth (represented by the Department of Health and Aged Care, ABN: 83 605 426 759) and the State of Victoria (represented by the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance, ABN: 44 128 890 975); and
 - (ii) as part of the Commonwealth Urgent Care Clinic Program for which items specified in Schedules A, B and C of this Direction; and of the general medical services table (means the table prescribed under subsection 4(1) of the Act) and pathology service table (means the table prescribed under section 4A of the Act) relates; and
 - (b) Where the professional service is provided to:
 - (i) an eligible person (as defined in section 3 of the Act);
 - (ii) a patient who is not receiving the service as part of an episode of hospital treatment (as defined in section 121-5 of the *Private Health Insurance Act 2007*); and
 - (iii) a patient who also is not receiving a service which attracts a payment through the 2020-2025 Addendum to the National Health Reform Agreement for a service rendered to a public patient; and
 - (c) The professional services referred to in paragraph (2)(a) must be provided:
 - (i) if the service is specified in Schedule A:
 - (A) at a practice location specified in Schedule D or E of this Direction; and

- (B) by a general practitioner, prescribed medical practitioner or participating nurse practitioner who is registered to provide services with Services Australia under the Commonwealth Urgent Care Clinic program mentioned in paragraph (2)(a).
- (ii) if the service is specified in Schedule B:
- (A) at a practice location specified in Schedule D of this Direction; and
- (B) by a prescribed medical practitioner who is registered to provide services with Services Australia under the Commonwealth Urgent Care Clinic program mentioned in paragraph (2)(a).
- (iii) if the service is specified in Schedule C:
- (A) at a practice location specified in Schedule E of this Direction; and
- (B) by a prescribed medical practitioner who is registered to provide services with Services Australia under the Commonwealth Urgent Care Clinic program mentioned in paragraph (2)(a).
- (3) DECLARE that this Direction commences on 1 December 2024 and ceases to have effect at the end of 30 June 2026 unless earlier revoked.

Note, a number of expressions used in this direction are defined in the below instruments:

- *Health Insurance Act 1973*: the meaning of general practitioner, participating nurse practitioner and professional service; and
- *Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2021*: the meaning of prescribed medical practitioner.

Date this 15th day November 2024

Nigel Murray
Assistant Secretary
MBS Policy and Specialist Programs Branch
Medicare Benefits and Digital Health Division
Health Resourcing Group
Department of Health and Aged Care

SCHEDULE A

MEDICARE BENEFITS SCHEDULE ITEMS AS AGREED UNDER THE URGENT CARE CLINIC PROGRAM

For services listed in the below tables, 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 apply.

General Medical Services Table

Group	Group Name	Subgroup	Subgroup Name	Item Number
A1	General practitioner attendances to which no other item applies			3, 23, 36, 44, 123
A5	Prolonged attendances to which no other item applies			
A7	Acupuncture and non-specialist practitioner items	9	Prescribed medical practitioner mental health care	279
A20	Mental health care	1	GP mental health treatment plans	2713
A22	General practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies			5000, 5020, 5040, 5060, 5071
D1	Miscellaneous diagnostic procedures and investigations	6	Cardiovascular	11707
T4	Obstetrics			16500
T7	Regional or field nerve blocks			18213
T8	Surgical operations	1	General	30003, 30006, 30026, 30029, 30032, 30035, 30038, 30042, 30045, 30049, 30061, 30064, 30099, 30216, 30219
		2	Colorectal	32147
		5	Urological	36800
		8	Ear, nose and throat	41500, 41659, 41677
		9	Ophthalmology	42644, 42650
		14	Hand or wrist surgery	46513, 46528, 46531
		15	Orthopaedic	47904, 47915, 47916, 47015, 47030, 47042, 47057, 47063, 47069, 47301, 47348, 47354, 47361, 47387, 47423, 47444, 47453, 47462, 47466, 47471, 47543, 47561, 47579, 47595, 47637, 47663, 47735
M1	Management of bulk-billed services	1	Management of general bulk-billed services	10990, 10991, 10992, 75855, 75856, 75857, 75858
		2	General support service	75870, 75871, 75872, 75873, 75874, 75875, 75876
M14	Nurse practitioners	1	Nurse practitioners	82200, 82205, 82210, 82215

**Note: Claims under any item in Group A7 in the General Medical Services Table may only be exempt from subsection 19(2) of the Act when the services are claimed by a Prescribed Medical Practitioner operating under the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic Program.*

Pathology Services Table

Group	Group Name	Item Number
P9	simple basic pathology tests	73806

SCHEDULE B

MEDICARE BENEFITS SCHEDULE ITEMS WHERE A CLINIC IS LOCATED IN MMM 1 LOCATIONS

For services listed in the below tables, 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 apply.

General Medical Services Table

Group	Group Name	Subgroup	Subgroup Name	Item Number
A2	Other non-referred attendances to which no other item applies	1	Other medical practitioner attendances	52, 53, 54, 57
A23	Other non-referred after-hours attendances to which no other item applies			5200, 5203, 5207, 5208

**Note: Claims under any item in Group A2 and A23 in the General Medical Services Table may only be exempt from subsection 19(2) of the Act when the services are claimed by a Prescribed Medical Practitioner operating under the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic Program.*

SCHEDULE C

MEDICARE BENEFITS SCHEDULE ITEMS WHERE A CLINIC IS LOCATED IN MMM 2-7 LOCATIONS

For services listed in the below tables, 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 apply.

General Medical Services Table

Group	Group Name	Subgroup	Subgroup Name	Item Number
A7	Acupuncture and non-specialist practitioner items	2	Prescribed medical practitioner attendance to which no other item applies	179, 185, 189, 203
		10	Prescribed Medical Practitioner after-hours attendances to which no other item applies	733, 737, 741, 745

**Note: Claims under any item in Group A7 in the General Medical Services Table may only be exempt from subsection 19(2) of the Act when the services are claimed by a Prescribed Medical Practitioner operating under the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic Program.*

SCHEDULE D

APPROVED MMM 1 PRACTICE LOCATIONS AS AGREED UNDER THE FEDERAL FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

Approved primary care locations:

State	MMM 1 Location	Practice Name	Legal Name	Street Address
VIC	Dandenong	Greens Medical Group	Keys Medical Centre Pty Ltd	1/134 Logis Boulevard, Dandenong South VIC 3175
VIC	Epping	Epping Plaza Medical and Dental Centre	The Trustee for ARTLU UNIT TRUST	Shop 216, Epping Plaza Regional Centre, 571-583 High Street, Epping VIC 3076
VIC	Frankston	Frankston Priority Primary Care Centre	Sandringham Ambulatory Care Centre Pty Ltd	1-3/49 Beach Street, Frankston VIC 3199
VIC	Geelong	Eastbrooke Family Clinic Belmont	Eastbrooke Medical Centres Pty Ltd	75 Roslyn Road, Belmont VIC 3216
VIC	Mount Waverley	Mount Waverly Urgent Care Clinic	Interconnect Healthcare Pty Ltd	408 Huntingdale Road Mount Waverley VIC 3149
VIC	Heidelberg	Heidelberg Medicare Urgent Care Clinic	Interconnect Healthcare Pty Ltd	152 Burgundy Street Heidelberg VIC 3084
VIC	Inner Melbourne	Carlton Medical and Urgent Care Clinic	The Trustee for ARTLU UNIT TRUST	1/221 Drummond Street, Carlton VIC 3053
VIC	Maribyrnong	Edgewater Medical Centre	The Trustee for Edgewater Medical Clinic Unit Trust	G01B/31 Edgewater Boulevard, Maribyrnong VIC 3032
VIC	Maroondah	M3 Health Bayswater Medical Clinic	The Trustee for Modern Medical Bayswater Unit Trust	Mountain High Shopping Centre, Shop 30, 7-13 High Street, Bayswater VIC 3153
VIC	Melton	Melton Medical & Dental Centre	The Trustee for ARTLU UNIT TRUST	247/251 Station Rd, Melton VIC 3337

VIC	Narre Warren	Narregate Medical and Dental Centre	The Trustee for ARTLU UNIT TRUST	60 Victor Crescent, Narre Warren VIC 3805
VIC	Prahran	Prahran Medicare Urgent Care Clinic	Sandringham Ambulatory Care Centre Pty Ltd	55 Commercial Road Melbourne VIC 3004
VIC	Sunbury	Goonawarra Medical Centre Sunbury	The Trustee for Napier Medical Trust	1-5 Dornoch Drive, Sunbury VIC 3429
VIC	Werribee	Werribee Medical and Dental Centre	The Trustee for ARTLU UNIT TRUST	1-5 Station Place, Werribee VIC 3030

SCHEDULE E

APPROVED MMM 2-7 PRACTICE LOCATIONS AS AGREED UNDER THE FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

Approved primary care locations:

State	MMM 2 Location	Practice Name	Legal Name	Street Address
VIC	Ballarat	Ballarat Priority Primary Care Centre (UFS Medical)	UFS HEALTHCARE LTD	1010 Sturt Street Ballarat VIC 3350
VIC	Bendigo	Bendigo Primary Care Centre	Bendigo Primary Care Centre Limited	121 Arnold Street, Bendigo VIC 3550

State	MMM 3 Location	Practice Name	Legal Name	Street Address
VIC	Shepparton	The University of Melbourne Shepparton Medical Centre	Melbourne Teaching Health Clinics Ltd	49 Graham Street, Shepparton VIC 3630