### Changes to General Gynaecology MBS items

Last updated: 21 December 2021

- From 1 March 2022, some of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) items for gynaecology services are changing
  to align with contemporary and evidenced based treatment. The changes are a result of the MBS Review
  Taskforce recommendations for gynaecology and extensive consultation with stakeholders.
- The changes relate to four subspecialty areas General Gynaecology, Assisted Reproductive Technology, Urogynaecology and Gynaecological Oncology. There is a separate factsheet for each area.
- This factsheet covers General Gynaecology services.

#### What are the changes?

From 1 March 2022, changes will be made to some of the General Gynaecology services funded through the MBS. The changes comprise of 3 new items, 28 amended items and 9 deleted items.

New items: 35631, 35632, 35751

Amended items: 35503, 35506, 35513, 35517, 35518, 35611, 35616, 35620, 35622, 35623, 35626, 35630, 35633, 35635, 35636, 35637, 35640, 35641, 35643, 35649, 35653, 35658, 35756, 35759, 35661, 35750, 35753, 35754,

Deleted items: 35502, 35520, 35572, 35627, 35634, 35638, 35677, 35678, 35688

This factsheet also includes proposed Private Health Insurance (PHI) classifications and categorisations for the new and amended MBS items, noting these are subject to the making and registration of the Private Health Insurance Rules.

#### Why are the changes being made?

These changes give effect to the recommendations of the independent MBS Review Taskforce, which was informed by the Gynaecology Clinical Committee, plus further consultation with clinical experts and stakeholders through the Gynaecology Implementation Liaison Group. The changes will promote best clinical practice, patient safety and quality of care.

More information about the Taskforce and associated Committees is available on the Department of Health website: <a href="Medicare Benefits Schedule Review">Medicare Benefits Schedule Review</a>. A full copy of the Taskforce's final report, including the rationales of changes which are outlined in this factsheet, can be found at: 2020 – <a href="Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce">Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce</a>. – <a href="Final Report">Final Report</a> on the Review of Gynaecology MBS Items.



#### What does this mean for providers?

Providers will need to familiarise themselves with the changes to the MBS items relevant to their practice, and any associated rules and/or explanatory notes. Providers have a responsibility to ensure that any services they bill to Medicare fully meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the legislation.

#### How will these changes affect patients?

Patients will continue to receive Medicare rebates for general gynaecology services that reflect contemporary clinical practice.

#### Who was consulted on the changes?

A number of peak bodies were consulted during the MBS Review process, including the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrician and Gynaecologists, National Association of Specialist Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Australian Society of Gynaecologic Oncologists, UroGynaecological Society of Australia, Fertility Society of Australia, Australian Gynaecological Endoscopy & Surgery Society, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Australian Medical Association, Private Healthcare Australia, Australian Private Hospital Association, and consumer representatives.

### New item descriptors (to take effect from 1 March 2022)

Group T	Group T8 – Surgical Operations		
Subgrou	Subgroup 4 – Gynaecology		
Item	Descriptor		
35631	Operative laparoscopy, including any of the following:		
	(a) unilateral or bilateral ovarian cystectomy;		
	(b) salpingo-oophorectomy;		
	(c) salpingectomy for tubal pathology (including ectopic pregnancy by tubal removal or salpingostomy,		
	but excluding sterilisation);		
	(d) excision of stage II (mild) endometriosis;		
	not being a service associated with a service to which any other intraperitoneal or retroperitoneal		
	procedure item (other than item 30724 or 30725) applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)		
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$740.35		
	75% Benefit: \$555.30		
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil		
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical		
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology		



	Note: Item 35631 and 35632 result from deleting and splitting item 35638 into two new items.
35632	Complicated operative laparoscopy, including either or both of the following:  (a) excision of stage III endometriosis;  (b) laparoscopic myomectomy for a myoma of at least 4 cm, including incision and repair of the uterus; not being a service associated with a service to which any other intraperitoneal or retroperitoneal procedure item (other than item 30724 or 30725 or 35658) applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)  MBS Schedule Fee: \$925.40 75% Benefit: \$694.05  Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology  Note: Item 35631 and 35632 result from deleting and splitting item 35638 into two new items.
35751	Hysterectomy, laparoscopic, by any approach, including any endometrial sampling, with or without removal of the tubes, not being a service associated with a service to which item 35595 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)  MBS Schedule Fee: \$816.40 75% Benefit: \$612.30  Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil  Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: This item results from the amendment to item 35750 (below) to split into two items being 35750 and 35751.



### Amended item descriptors (to take effect from 1 March 2022)

Group T8 – Surgical Operations		
Subgroup 3 – Gynaecology		
Item	Descriptor	
35503	Introduction of an intra-uterine device for abnormal uterine bleeding or contraception or for endometrial protection during oestrogen replacement therapy, if the service is not associated with a service to which another item in this Group applies (other than a service described in item 30062, 35506 or 35620) (Anaes.)	
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$83.40 85% Benefit: \$70.90 75% Benefit: \$62.55	
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil	
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type C	
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology	
	Note: This amendment consolidates deleted item 35502 into this service and increases the schedule fee from \$55.70 to \$83.40.	
35506	Intra-uterine device, removal of under general anaesthesia, for a retained or embedded device, not being a service associated with a service to which another item in this Group applies (other than a service described in item 35503) (Anaes.)	
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$55.85 85% Benefit: \$47.50 75% Benefit: \$41.90	
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil	
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Unlisted	
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology	
35513	Bartholin's abscess, cyst or gland, excision of (Anaes.)	
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$230.70 85% Benefit: \$196.10 75% Benefit: \$173.05	



	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35517	Bartholin's abscess, cyst or gland, marsupialisation of (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$151.95
	85% Benefit: \$129.20
	75% Benefit: \$114.00
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35518	Ovarian cyst aspiration, for cysts of at least 4 cm in diameter in a premenopausal patient and at least
	2 cm in diameter in a postmenopausal patient, by abdominal or vaginal route, using interventional
	imaging techniques and not associated with services provided for assisted reproductive techniques,
	and not in cases of suspected or possible malignancy (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$216.30
	85% Benefit: \$183.90
	75% Benefit: \$162.25
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Unlisted
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35611	Removal of cervical or vaginal polyp or polypi, with or without dilatation of cervix, not being a service
	associated with a service to which item 35608 applies (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$66.55
	85% Benefit: \$56.60
	75% Benefit: \$49.95
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Unlisted
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35616	Endometrial ablation by thermal balloon or radiofrequency electrosurgery, for abnormal uterine
	bleeding, with or without endometrial sampling, including any hysteroscopy performed on the same day (H) (Anaes.)
	day (H) (Anaes.)



	MBS Schedule Fee: \$467.80
	75% Benefit: \$350.85
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	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35620	Endometrial biopsy for pathological assessment in women with abnormal uterine bleeding or post-menopausal bleeding (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$55.50
	85% Benefit: \$47.20
	75% Benefit: \$41.65
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type C
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35622	Endometrial ablation, using hysteroscopically guided electrosurgery or laser energy for abnormal
	uterine bleeding, with or without endometrial sampling, not being a service associated with a service to
	which item 30390 applies (H) (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$626.90
	75% Benefit: \$470.20
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
05000	
35623	Endometrial ablation and resection of myoma or uterine septum (or both), using hysteroscopic guided
	electrosurgery or laser energy, for abnormal uterine bleeding, with or without endometrial sampling (H)
	(Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$852.45
	75% Benefit: \$639.35
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: This amendment consolidates deleted item 35634 into this service.



35626	Hysteroscopy for investigation of suspected intrauterine pathology, with or without local anaesthesia, including any associated endometrial biopsy, not being a service associated with a service to which
	item 35630 applies
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$233.10
	85% Benefit: \$198.15 75% Benefit: \$174.85
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type C
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: This amendment increases the schedule fee from \$86.10 to \$233.10.
35630	Hysteroscopy for investigation of suspected intrauterine pathology if performed under general anaesthesia, including any associated endometrial biopsy, not being a service associated with a service to which item 35626 applies (H) (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$190.45 75% Benefit: \$142.85
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: This amendment consolidates deleted item 35626 into this service.
35633	Hysteroscopy, under visual guidance, including any of the following:
	<ul><li>(a) removal of an intra-uterine device;</li><li>(b) removal of polyps by any method;</li></ul>
	(c) division of minor adhesions (ESH Grade 1)
	(Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$226.80
	85% Benefit: \$192.80
	75% Benefit: \$170.10
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35635	Hysteroscopy involving division of:
	(a) a uterine septum; or



	(b) intrautoring adhesions ESH Grade 2 or higher (H) (Anacc.)
	(b) intrauterine adhesions ESH Grade 2 or higher (H) (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$311.60
	75% Benefit: \$233.70
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35636	Hysteroscopy, resection of myoma or myoma and uterine septum (if both are performed) (H) (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$450.55
	75% Benefit: \$337.95
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35637	Operative laparoscopy, including any of the following:
	(a) excision or ablation of stage I (minor) endometriosis;
	<ul><li>(b) division of pathological adhesions;</li><li>(c) sterilisation by application of clips, division, destruction or removal of tubes;</li></ul>
	not being a service associated with a service to which any other item in this Group applies (H) (Anaes.)
	(Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$423.10
	75% Benefit: \$317.35
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical and Type B Non-band specific
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: This amendment consolidates item 35688 into this service.
35640	Uterus, curettage of, with or without dilation (including curettage for incomplete miscarriage), if
	performed under:
	(a) general anaesthesia; or (b) epidural or spinal (intrathecal) nerve block; or
	(c) sedation;
	including procedures (if performed) to which item 35626 or 35630 applies (Anaes.)



MBS Schedule Fee: \$190.45

85% Benefit: \$161.90 75% Benefit: \$142.85

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific

Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Miscarriage and termination of pregnancy

ENDOMETRIOSIS rAFS stage IV, laparoscopic resection of, involving two of the following procedures, resection of the pelvic side wall including dissection of endometriosis or scar tissue from the ureter,

resection of the Pouch of Douglas, resection of an ovarian endometrioma greater than 2 cm in diameter, dissection of bowel from uterus from the level of the endocervical junction or above (H)

(Anaes.) (Assist.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$1,293.05

75% Benefit: \$969.80

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical and Type B Non-band specific

Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology

Evacuation of the contents of the gravid uterus by curettage or suction curettage, if performed under:

(a) local anaesthesia; or

(b) general anaesthesia; or

(c) epidural or spinal (intrathecal) nerve block; or

(d) sedation;

including procedures (if performed) to which item 35626 or 35630 applies (Anaes.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$226.80

85% Benefit: \$192.80 75% Benefit: \$170.10

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type B Non-band specific

Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Miscarriage and termination of pregnancy

Myomectomy, one or more myomas, when undertaken by an open abdominal approach (H) (Anaes.)

(Assist.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$557.70

75% Benefit: \$418.30



	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35653	Hysterectomy, abdominal, with or without removal of fallopian tubes and ovaries (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$702.05 75% Benefit: \$526.55
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35658	Uterus (at least equivalent in size to a 10 week gravid uterus), debulking of, prior to vaginal or laparoscopic removal at hysterectomy or myoma of at least 4 cm removed by laparoscopy when retrieved from the abdomen (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$432.90 75% Benefit: \$324.70
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
35661	Hysterectomy, abdominal, that concurrently requires extensive retroperitoneal dissection with exposure of one or both ureters and complex side wall dissection, including when performed with one or more of the following procedures:  (a) salpingectomy;  (b) oophorectomy;  (c) excision of ovarian cyst  (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$1,755.35 75% Benefit: \$1,316.55
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: The schedule fee for this item will increase from \$906.65 to \$1,755.35.



Hysterectomy, laparoscopic assisted vaginal, by any approach, including any endometrial sampling, with or without removal of the tubes or ovarian cystectomy or removal of the ovaries and tubes due to other pathology, not being a service associated with a service to which item 35595 or 35673 applies (Anaes.) (Assist.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$816.40

75% Benefit: \$612.30

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology

Note: This item has been split into two items; 35750 and new item 35751 and is intended to be a hospital service only.

#### 35753

Hysterectomy, complex laparoscopic, by any approach, including endometrial sampling, with either or both of the following procedures:

- (a) unilateral or bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (excluding salpingectomy);
- (b) excision of moderate endometriosis or ovarian cyst;

including any associated laparoscopy, not being a service associated with a service to which item 35595 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$902.75

75% Benefit: \$677.10

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical

Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology

#### 35754

Hysterectomy, laparoscopic, by any approach, including any of the following procedures:

- (a) salpingectomy;
- (b) oophorectomy;
- (c) excision of ovarian cyst;
- (d) any endometrial sampling that concurrently requires complex side wall dissection;
- (e) any associated laparoscopy;

other than a service to which item 35595 or 35641 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

MBS Schedule Fee: \$1,744.35

75% Benefit: \$1,308.30

Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil

Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical



	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: The schedule fee for this item will increase from \$1,136.15 to \$1,744.35.
35756	Hysterectomy, laparoscopic, by any approach, if the procedure is completed by open hysterectomy for control of bleeding or extensive pathology, including any associated laparoscopy, not being a service associated with a service to which item 35595 or 35641 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$ 1,488.90
	75% Benefit: \$1,116.70
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Advanced Surgical
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology
	Note: The schedule fee for this item will increase from \$816.40 to \$1,488.90.
35759	Procedure for the control of post operative haemorrhage following gynaecological surgery, under general anaesthesia, utilising a vaginal, abdominal or laparoscopic approach if no other procedure is performed (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$586.15
	75% Benefit: \$439.65
	Extended Medical Safety Net (EMSN) cap: nil
	Proposed PHI Procedure Type: Type A Surgical
	Proposed PHI Clinical Category: Gynaecology

### Deleted item descriptors

Group T8 – Surgical Operations	
Subgroup 3 – Gynaecology	
Item	Descriptor



35502	INTRAUTERINE DEVICE, INTRODUCTION OF, for the control of idiopathic menorrhagia, AND ENDOMETRIAL BIOPSY to exclude endometrial pathology, not being a service associated with a service to which another item in this Group applies (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$83.40
	Note: This item has been consolidated into item 35503.
35520	BARTHOLIN'S ABSCESS, incision of
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$60.70
35572	COLPOTOMY not being a service to which another item in this Group applies (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$128.85
35627	HYSTEROSCOPY with dilatation of the cervix performed in the operating theatre of a hospital - not being a service associated with a service to which item 35626 or 35630 applies (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$111.50
	Note: This item has been consolidated into item 35630.
35634	HYSTEROSCOPIC RESECTION of uterine septum followed by endometrial ablation by laser or diathermy (Anaes.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$713.45
	Note: This item has been consolidated into item 35623.
35638	Complicated operative laparoscopy, including use of laser when required, for one or more of the
	following procedures: (a) oophorectomy;
	(b) ovarian cystectomy;
	(c) myomectomy;
	(d) salpingectomy;
	(e) salpingostomy;
	(f) ablation of moderate or severe endometriosis requiring more than 1 hour's operating time;
	(g) division of utero-sacral ligaments for significant dysmenorrhoea;
	other than a service associated with another intraperitoneal or retroperitoneal procedure except item 30724 (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$740.35
	Note: This item is being split into two new items; 35631 and 35632.



35677	ECTOPIC PREGNANCY, removal of (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$557.70
	Note: Where appropriate, item 35717 may be used.
35678	ECTOPIC PREGNANCY, laparoscopic removal of (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$672.45
	Note: Where appropriate item, 35631 may be used.
35688	STERILISATION BY TRANSECTION OR RESECTION OF FALLOPIAN TUBES, via abdominal or vaginal routes or via laparoscopy using diathermy or any other method. (Anaes.) (Assist.)
	MBS Schedule Fee: \$413.35
	Note: This item has been consolidated into item 35637.

#### How will the changes be monitored and reviewed?

The impact of these changes will be closely monitored. The Department will continue to work with stakeholders following implementation of the changes.

All MBS items are subject to compliance processes and activities, including random and targeted audits which may require a provider to submit evidence about the services claimed.

#### Where can I find more information?

The current gynaecology item descriptor(s) and information on other changes to the MBS can be found on the MBS Online website at <a href="www.mbsonline.gov.au">www.mbsonline.gov.au</a>. The updated item descriptors will be live on the website from 1 March 2022.

You can also subscribe to future MBS updates by visiting MBS Online and clicking 'Subscribe'.

The Department of Health provides an email advice services for providers seeking advice on interpretation of MBS items and rules and the Health Insurance Act and associated regulations. If you have a query relating exclusively to interpretation of the Schedule, you should <a href="mailto:askMBS@health.gov.au">askMBS@health.gov.au</a>.

For questions regarding the proposed PHI classifications, please email PHI@health.gov.au.

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If you are seeking advice in relation to Medicare billing, claiming, payments, or obtaining a provider number, please go to the Health Professionals page on the Services Australia website or contact Services Australia on the Provider Enquiry Line – 13 21 50.

The data file for software vendors will be available via the MBS Online website under the <u>Downloads</u> page.

Please note that the information provided is a general guide only. It is ultimately the responsibility of treating practitioners to use their professional judgment to determine the most clinically appropriate services to provide, and then to ensure that any services billed to Medicare fully meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the legislation.

This sheet is current as of the last updated date shown above and does not account for MBS changes since that date.