

PATHOLOGY SERVICES

The following changes should be made to the 1 February 1992 supplement to the Medicare Benefits Schedule Book.

Page 2:

AMEND: PB Requests, PB.2.6 ADD: Notes.
Omit "The patient episode initiation" and substitute "The specimen referred".

Page 7:

OMIT: Paragraph 11 (3)

SUBSTITUTE: (3) A service mentioned in items 73901 to 73921 (inclusive) does not apply to a pathology service:

- (a) to which subsection 16A (7) of the Act applies; or
- (b) unless at least one of the items 65001 to 73529 (inclusive) also applies to that service.

OMIT: Paragraph 11 (5) section (b)

INSERT: Paragraph 11A

If item 73921 applies to a patient episode, none of items 73901 to 73917 (inclusive) applies to any pathology service rendered by the approved pathology authority or the approved pathology provider in respect of that patient episode.

Pages 28 and 29:

AMEND: Items 73901, 73903 and 73905. Omit "by collection of specimen for" and substitute "which consists only of".

AMEND: Items 73907, 73909, 73911, 73913, 73915 and 73917. Omit "Patient episode initiated" and substitute "initiation of a patient episode".

AMEND: Item 73913. Insert "73907, 73917" after "73905".

These changes are effective from 1 February 1992.

All reference in the Supplement to previous "OP" items should be disregarded.

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**SUPPLEMENT TO 1 DECEMBER 1991
MEDICARE BENEFITS SCHEDULE BOOK
AMENDMENTS - EFFECTIVE 1 FEBRUARY 1992**

This supplement provides details of changes to the pathology arrangements as foreshadowed in the 1991/92 Federal Budget. The new arrangements apply to services rendered on and after 1 February 1992.

A full reprint of pathology items and descriptions (Category 6 of the Medicare Benefits Schedule) with revised fees and benefits is contained in this supplement.

INTRODUCTION

Recent Amendments to the Legislation

The 1991 amendments to the Health Insurance Act 1973 enable the introduction of the pathology initiatives which were announced during the August Budget 1991, by the Minister for Health, Housing and Community Services, the Hon. Brian Howe MP.

Establishment of the Pathology Advisory Committee

The Minister has established a new committee - the Pathology Advisory Committee (PAC) which comprises representatives from the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services, the Health Insurance Commission, the Australian Association of Pathology Practices Inc.(AAPP) and the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA). The RCPA has nominated one representative with expertise in the practice of pathology in the public sector.

This committee was established to implement the Budget reforms to the pathology industry and to advise Government on further reforms on an ongoing basis. It has also established a mechanism to ensure that the pathology industry is advised of ongoing developments and initiatives and kept informed of the outcomes of meetings of the PAC.

CHANGES TO THE PATHOLOGY SERVICES TABLE

Changes to the pathology services table include the following:

1. the introduction of a single level Schedule fee, as opposed to the current SP and OP fees, which is the equivalent of 70% of the current SP fee;
2. a further reduction of \$0.50 in the Schedule fee for the following high volume items:
65007 (full blood examination)
66211 (multiple chemical pathology)
69217 (urine examination)
3. the introduction of new fees for items 72801 (histopathology), 73053, 73055 and 73057 (cytology);
4. the introduction of new differential patient episode initiation fees which represent costs other than those directly involved in the test procedure (new Groups P10 and P11);
5. the introduction of a licensing scheme for pathology specimen collection centres; and
6. increased acceptance fees for Approved Pathology Authorities, Approved Pathology Practitioners and Approved Pathology Laboratories.

LICENSED COLLECTION CENTRES

Licensed Collection Centres

To enable the payment of Medicare benefits for pathology services carried out on specimens collected in a collection centre, the centre must be licensed from 1 February 1992.

In order to be licensed, a collection centre must be owned or leased by an approved pathology authority, which is set up with appropriate equipment and supplies for the collection of pathology specimens. The centre must be staffed by employees of that approved pathology authority and include staff trained in specimen collection procedures. The annual licence fee for each collection centre has been set at \$1,000.

The formula for the allocation of licences for permanent collection centres is based on the volume of pathology services, the number of full time equivalent specialist pathologists associated with the practice and the number of treating practitioners who request pathology from that practice. New Approved Pathology Authorities will be eligible to apply for up to three licences.

Temporary Licensed Collection Centres

The number of centres operated by some pathology practices will exceed the number which may be granted a licence under the new arrangements. Excess centres may receive temporary licensing and will be phased out over two years.

Special consideration may be given to granting additional licences for rural areas, on a proven needs basis.

Applying for Collection Centre Licences

Collection centre licences must be applied for on an annual basis.

Application forms for licensing of collection centres will be despatched by the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services.

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

The following changes should be made to the notes contained in Section 6 of the 1 December 1991 Medicare Benefits Schedule

PB. REQUESTS

PB.2 Responsibilities of Approved Pathology Practitioners

PB.2.6 Referral from an Approved Pathology Practitioner to another Approved Pathology Practitioner

ADD: Notes: *specimen referred*
The ~~patient episode initiation~~ fee is payable to the referred laboratory where the requesting laboratory collects the specimen.

PC. DETAILS REQUIRED ON ACCOUNTS, RECEIPTS OR ASSIGNMENT FORMS

PC.2 Approved Pathology Practitioner

ADD: provide collection centre Identification number if specimen was collected in a licensed collection centre.

PE. SCHEDULE FEES

DELETE all of PE.1. Substitute the following:

PE.1 Single level fees

A single level Schedule fee has been introduced as opposed to the previous SP and OP fee levels. The Schedule fee is set at 70% of the previous SP fee for all services except items of cytology, histopathology and three high volume test items.

NEW PE.2 Patient Episode Initiation fees

New patient episode initiation fees have been introduced (see Groups P10 and P11 of the pathology services table) and are payable to those providers who were previously eligible to charge at the SP fee rate. These fees represent costs other than those directly involved in the test procedure and include the costs associated with transporting specimens to the laboratory and collecting samples.

DELETE TITLE 'PE.2 SP Schedule fees'

DELETE 'SP Schedule fees are payable for pathology services performed:' REPLACE WITH 'Items in Groups P10 and P11 of the pathology services table are only applicable to services performed:
by or on behalf of an Approved Pathology.....etc'

KEEP REMAINING PE.2 text incorporating the following **bolded** words:

'Accordingly, **these fees** are not payable for pathology services rendered by.....etc'

ADD: The patient episode initiation fees will be applicable on an episodic basis i.e. a claim may be made for the provision of pathology services requested by a practitioner in respect of one individual on the same day. For example, if a practitioner orders four pathology tests for a person on the one day, Medicare benefits will be payable for each of those tests but only one patient episode initiation fee may be applicable.

The patient episode initiation fees are two-tiered.

A higher fee of \$15.50 will be payable for specimens collected in a licensed permanent collection centre, private hospital or day hospital facility where the patient is an in-patient, the patient's residence or in a nursing home or institution. The specimen must be collected by an employee of the proprietor of the laboratory in which the pathology service will be rendered, or an approved pathology practitioner associated with that laboratory.

A lower fee of \$9.50 will be payable for specimens collected in licensed temporary collection centres, specimens collected by the patient himself or herself other than in a licensed collection centre, or specimens collected by or on behalf of a treating doctor.

PE.3 OP Schedule fees

DELETE PE.3 Substitute the following:

PE.3 Patient Episode Initiation Fees for Certain Histopathology and Cytology items

Histopathology Item 72801 and cytology Items 73053, 73055 and 73057 will be subject to a different patient episode initiation fee structure - Items 73901 to 73905 refer.

PG. ACCREDITED PATHOLOGY LABORATORIES

PG.2 Applying for Accreditation

DELETE: 'the prescribed fee of \$200'

ADD: The new prescribed fees for Approved Pathology Laboratories are:

\$2,500 for Category 1 labs

\$2,000 for Category 2 labs

\$1,500 for Category 3 labs

\$ 750 for Category 5, 6 & 7 labs

DELETE: '(except for Victoria where the fee is \$50)'

PG.4 State Schemes

DELETE: PG.4.

PH. APPROVED PATHOLOGY PRACTITIONERS

PH.2 Applying for Acceptance of the Approved Pathology Practitioner Undertaking

DELETE: (iii)

AFTER 'to the Pathology.....(in your capital city).'

ADD: On receipt of advice that the Minister has granted an undertaking, a cheque for \$500 should be despatched to the above address. If the fee is not paid within 14 days, Medicare benefits will not be payable from the date of the undertaking being approved.

PI. APPROVED PATHOLOGY AUTHORITIES

PI.2 Applying for Acceptance of an Approved Pathology Authority Undertaking

DELETE:(iii)

AFTER 'to the Pathology.....(in your capital city).'

ADD: On receipt of advice that the Minister has granted an undertaking, a cheque for \$1,500 should be despatched to the above address. If the fee is not paid within 14 days, Medicare benefits will not be payable from the date of the undertaking being approved.

PX. PATHOLOGY SERVICES TABLE

PX.1 Rules for the Interpretation of the Pathology Services Table

DELETE: PX.1 Substitute the following:

1.(1) In this table, unless the contrary intention appears:

"**patient episode**" means a pathology service, or pathology services whether listed in 1 or more items, for a single patient whose need for which was determined under subsection 16A(1) of the Act on the same day, whether rendered by 1 or more approved pathology practitioners on 1 or more days;

"**recognised pathologist**" means a medical practitioner recognised as a specialist in pathology under a determination under subsection 61(3) of the Act;

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

(2) In these Rules, a reference to a request to an approved pathology practitioner includes a reference to a request for a pathologist-determinable service to which subsection 16A(6) of the Act

applies.

2. (1) If a service is described:

- (a) in an item in general terms; and
- (b) in another item in specific terms;

only the item that describes the service in specific terms applies to the service.

(2) If:

- (a) a service is described in 2 or more items; and
- (b) subrule (1) does not apply;

only the item that provides the lower or lowest fee for the service applies to the service.

3. (1) In subrule (2), "service" includes an assay, estimation and test.

(2) 2 or more pathology services rendered for a patient following 2 or more requests are taken to have been rendered following a single request if:

- (a) the services are listed in the same item; and
- (b) the patient's need for the services was determined under subsection 16A(1) of the Act on the same day even if they are rendered by an approved pathology practitioner on more than one day.

4. If:

- (a) a pathology service to which an item of the table applies is rendered for a patient in accordance with a request; and
- (b) another pathology service is rendered for the patient in accordance with the request; and
- (c) an item of the table:
 - (i) applies to the other service; and
 - (ii) is referred to in the item mentioned in paragraph (a); the other service is treated as if it were part of the service referred to in paragraph (a).

Example:

Dr Proctor requests an extended blood grouping test (covered by item 65019) and the test includes a basic blood grouping test (covered by item 65017). Item 65017 is referred to in item 65019. Benefit is payable under item 65019 for the extended blood grouping test but benefit is not payable separately under item 65017 for the basic blood grouping test.

5. For the purposes of items 65001 to 66200 (inclusive):

- (a) if pathology services of a kind referred to in item 65017, 65018, 65019 or 65020 are rendered for a patient during a period when the patient is in hospital, the item applies only to the first pathology service of that kind rendered for the patient during that period; and
- (b) tests (except the tests mentioned in items 65023 and 65024) carried out on material stored from a previous patient episode in response to a later request are treated as part of that previous patient episode if the second request is made within 14 days of that previous patient episode.

6. For the purposes of items 66201 to 69200 (inclusive):

- (a) if a pathology service involving the measurement of a substance in urine requires a 24 hour urine collection, or calculation of a substance/creatinine ratio, the service is treated as including any estimation of creatinine in other fluids necessary for the calculation; and
- (b) tests carried out on material stored from a previous patient episode in response to a later request are treated as part of that previous patient episode if the second request is made within 14 days of that previous

patient episode.

7. For the purposes of items 69201 to 71000 (inclusive):

- (a) "serial examinations or cultures" means examinations or cultures requested on 1 occasion whether or not:
 - (i) the materials are received on different days by the approved pathology practitioner; or
 - (ii) the examinations or cultures were requested on 1 or more request forms by the treating practitioner; and
- (b) tests carried out on material stored from a previous patient episode in response to a later request are treated as part of that previous patient episode if the second request occurs within 14 days of that previous patient episode.

8. For the purposes of items 71001 to 72800 (inclusive):

- (a) in items 71025, 71026, 71027, 71028, 71029, 71030, 71031 and 71032, the estimation of a single antibody includes qualitative and quantitative assays for that antibody; and
- (b) tests carried out on material stored from a previous patient episode in response to a later request are treated as part of that previous patient episode if the second request occurs within 14 days of that previous patient episode.

9. For the purposes of items 72801 to 73040 (inclusive):

- (a) "biopsy material" means all tissue received by the approved pathology practitioner from an operation, or a group of operations, performed on a patient at the same time, other than a bone marrow biopsy; and
- (b) If:
 - (i) a pathology service that is the examination of biopsy material is rendered under any of those items; and
 - (ii) a further pathology service mentioned in any of those items is also rendered using that biopsy material;those pathology services are treated as 1 pathology service.

10. For the purposes of items 73041 to 73280 (inclusive), "serial examinations" means examinations requested on 1 occasion whether or not:

- (a) the materials are received on different days by the approved pathology practitioner; or
- (b) the examinations were requested on 1 or more request forms by the treating practitioner.

11. (1) for the purposes of this rule and items 73901 to 73921 (inclusive):

"approved pathology authority" has the same meaning as is Division 4A of Part IIA of the Act; "institution" means a place (other than a hospital, a nursing home or accommodation for aged persons that is attached to a nursing home or situated within a nursing home complex) at which residential accommodation or day care is, or both residential accommodation and day care are, made available to:

- (a) disadvantaged children; or
- (b) juvenile offenders; or
- (c) aged persons; or
- (d) chronically ill psychiatric patients; or
- (e) homeless persons; or
- (f) unemployed persons; or
- (g) persons suffering from alcoholism; or
- (h) persons addicted to drugs; or
- (i) physically or mentally handicapped persons.

"licensed collection centre" has the same meaning as in Part IIA of the Act;

"prescribed laboratory" means a laboratory operated by:

- (a) the Commonwealth; or
- (b) a State; or
- (c) an authority of a State or Territory; or
- (d) the Northern Territory; or
- (e) the Australian Capital Territory; or
- (f) an Australian tertiary education institution.

"specimen collection centre" has the same meaning as in Part IIA of the Act;

"temporary collection centre" has the same meaning as in Part IIA of the Act;

"treating practitioner" has the same meaning as in paragraph 16A(1)(a) of the Act.

(2) A service mentioned in items 73901 to 73921 inclusive) applies to a pathology service when rendered by, or on behalf of, an approved pathology practitioner who is a recognised pathologist unless:

- (a) the service is rendered upon a request made in the course of an out-patient service at a recognised hospital; or
- (b) the service is rendered upon a request made for a patient who is a private patient in a recognised hospital when the request was made; or
- (c) the pathology equipment of a recognised hospital, or prescribed laboratory, is used in rendering the service; or
- (d) a member of the staff of a recognised hospital, or prescribed laboratory, participates in the service in the course of the member's employment with the hospital or laboratory.

(3) A service mentioned in items 73901 to 73921 (inclusive), does not apply to a pathology service ~~to which subsection 16A(7) of the Act applies~~. *(a) to which subsection 16A(7) of the Act applies; or (b) unless at least one of the items 73901-9 (inclusive) also applies to that service.*

(4) If one item of items 73901 to 73917 (inclusive) applies to a patient episode, none of the remainder of those items apply to that patient episode.

(5) Item 73921:

- (a) applies only to the approved pathology practitioner or approved pathology authority to whom the specimen mentioned in the item was referred; and
- (b) ~~applies to a service even if any item in items 73901 to 73917 (inclusive) also applies to the service.~~

12. The abbreviations at the end of the table may be used to identify particular pathology services or groups of pathology services.

11. A.

If item 73921 applies to a patient episode, none of items 73901 to 73917 (inclusive) applies to any pathology service rendered by the approved pathology authority or the approved pathology provider in respect of that patient episode.

PATHOLOGY	HAEMATOLOGY
GROUP P1 - HAEMATOLOGY	
+	<p>Blood count consisting of erythrocyte count, C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, blood viscosity, haematocrit, haemoglobin, platelet count, leucocyte count, reticulocyte count - one or two procedures</p> <p>65001 Fee: \$5.40 Benefit: 75% \$4.05: 85%/\$26.80 \$4.60</p>
+	<p>Three or more procedures to which item 65001/65002 applies, including any calculation or measurement of erythrocyte or other indices.</p> <p>65003 Fee: \$7.40 Benefit: 75% \$5.55: 85%/\$26.80 \$6.30</p>
+	<p>Examination of blood film, with or without five part differential cell count, or five part differential cell count with or without examination of blood film, and if performed, any of these additional services - Direct Coombs test, tests for heterophile antibodies, cold agglutinins, examination of blood film by special stains to demonstrate Heinz bodies, parasites or iron, or examination of a blood film with alpha-naphthyl acetate esterase, chloroacetate esterase, neutrophil alkaline phosphatase, nitro blue tetrazolium, periodic acid Schiff, Sudan Black stains, or Kleihauer test for HbF on blood film, including any services specified in item 65027/65028</p> <p>65005 Fee: \$9.70 Benefit: 75% \$7.30: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.25</p>
+	<p>Full blood examination consisting of items 65003/65004 and 65005/65006</p> <p>65007 Fee: \$16.40 Benefit: 75% \$12.30: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.95</p>
+	<p>Erythrocytes, qualitative or quantitative assessment of haemolysis or metabolic enzymes by - erythrocyte autohaemolysis test, erythrocyte fragility test, sugar water test, erythrocyte metabolic enzyme test, heat denaturation test, isopropanol precipitation test, acid haemolysis test, and quantitation of muramidase in serum or urine - one or more procedures</p> <p>65009 Fee: \$22.50 Benefit: 75% \$16.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$19.15</p>
+	<p>Tests for the diagnosis of haemoglobinopathy consisting of haemoglobin electrophoreses and two of the following - examination for HbH, quantitation of HbA2 or HbF, including any services specified in items 65001/65002, 65003/65004, 65005/65006, and 65007/65008</p> <p>65011 Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75</p>
+	<p>Histopathological examination of sections of bone marrow trephine biopsy including where indicated, examination of marrow smears and any special stains and immuno-chemical techniques, including any services specified in items 65001/65002, 65003/65004, 65005/65006, 65007/65008 and 65015/65016</p> <p>65013 Fee: \$108.00 Benefit: 75% \$81.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$91.80</p>
+	<p>Bone marrow examination of aspirated material including any special stains, immuno-chemical techniques and clot sections where necessary, including any services specified in items 65001/65002, 65003/65004, 65005/65006 and 65007/65008</p> <p>65015 Fee: \$78.00 Benefit: 75% \$58.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$66.30</p>
<p>LEGEND: † New Service ‡ Description Amended + Fees Amended @ AU Units Amended * Item no.Changed</p> <p>February 1, 1992 Page 9</p>	

PATHOLOGY		HAEMATOLOGY			
+ 65017	Blood grouping, including back-grouping when performed - ABO and Rh (D antigen). Fee: \$9.50 Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10				
+ 65019	Blood grouping - Rh phenotypes, Kell system, Duffy system, M and N factors or any other blood group system - one or more systems, including any services specified in item 65017/65018 Fee: \$18.80 Benefit: 75% \$14.10: 85%/\$26.80 \$16.00				
+ 65021	Blood grouping, including back-grouping when performed, and examination of serum for Rh and other blood group antibodies, including identification and quantitative estimation of any antibodies detected, and including any services specified in items 65001/65002, 65003/65004, 65005/65006 and 65007/65008 Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75				
+ 65023	Compatibility testing, including all necessary grouping checks of patient and donor, examination for antibodies, identification and, if necessary, quantitative estimation of any antibodies detected and any services specified in items 65001/65002, 65003/65004, 65005/65006, 65007/65008, 65017/65018 and 65021/65022 including all testing performed on any one day Fee: \$86.00 Benefit: 75% \$64.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$73.10				
+ 65025	Examination of serum for blood group antibodies including identification and, if necessary, quantitative estimation of any antibodies detected Fee: \$15.60 Benefit: 75% \$11.70: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.30				
+ 65027	Direct Coombs test, qualitative or quantitative test for cold agglutinins, or heterophile antibodies, qualitative spectroscopic examinations of blood for abnormal haemoglobins, qualitative test for red cell porphyrins and detection of metalbumin (Schumm's test) including those services specified in items 65005/65006 and 65007/65008 - one or more tests Fee: \$8.60 Benefit: 75% \$6.45: 85%/\$26.80 \$7.35				
+ 65029	Skin bleeding time, coagulation time, prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time, thrombin time (including test for presence of an inhibitor and serial tests for fibrinolysis), test for factor XIII deficiency, fibrinogen, or one of - fibrinogen degradation products, fibrin monomer or D-dimer - one estimation Fee: \$11.80 Benefit: 75% \$8.85: 85%/\$26.80 \$10.05				
+ 65031	Two estimations specified in item 65029/65030 Fee: \$15.70 Benefit: 75% \$11.80: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.35				
+ 65033	Three estimations specified in item 65029/65030 Fee: \$19.60 Benefit: 75% \$14.70: 85%/\$26.80 \$16.70				
+ 65035	Four or more estimations specified in item 65029/65030 Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00				

LEGEND: † New Service ‡ Description Amended + Fees Amended © AU Units Amended * Item no.Changed
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PATHOLOGY		HAEMATOLOGY			
+ 65037	Quantitative assay, by one or more techniques, of plasminogen, antithrombin III, Protein C, Protein S, heparin co-factor II, Euglobulin clot lysis time and test for lupus anticoagulant - one estimation Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00				
+ 65039	Four or more estimations specified in item 65037/65038 Fee: \$74.00 Benefit: 75% \$55.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$62.90				
+ 65041	Platelet aggregation in response to ADP, collagen, 5HT, ristocetin or similar substance - one or more estimations Fee: \$46.50 Benefit: 75% \$34.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$39.55				
+ 65043	Heparin assay, only when monitoring a patient on subcutaneous heparin or low molecular weight heparin - one or more estimations Fee: \$31.00 Benefit: 75% \$23.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$26.35				
+ 65045	Quantitative assay of Von Willebrand's factor antigen (factor VIII related antigen), Von Willebrand's factor (ristocetin cofactor), factor II, factor V, factor VII, factor VIII, factor IX, factor X, factor XI, factor XII, factor XIII, Fletcher factor, Fitzgerald factor, Passovy factor - one estimation Fee: \$31.00 Benefit: 75% \$23.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$26.35				
+ 65047	Two estimations as specified in item 65045/65046 Fee: \$44.50 Benefit: 75% \$33.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$37.85				
+ 65049	Three or more estimations as specified in item 65045/65046 Fee: \$58.00 Benefit: 75% \$43.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$49.30				

PATHOLOGY		CHEMICAL			
GROUP P2 - CHEMICAL					
+	Quantitative estimation in serum, plasma, urine or any other body fluid, by any method except by reagent strip with or without reflectance meter or electrophoresis of -alanine amino-transferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, amylase, aspartate aminotransferase, bicarbonate, bilirubin (total and any fractions), calcium (total, dialysed or ionized), chloride, cholesterol, creatine kinase, creatine kinase isoenzymes (when not performed as specified in item 66245/66246), creatinine, fructosamine, gamma glutamyl transpeptidase, globulin, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase, lipase, lithium, magnesium, phosphate, potassium, total protein, sodium, triglycerides, urate, urea - one estimation	66201	Fee: \$9.60	Benefit: 75% \$7.20:	85%/\$26.80 \$8.20
+	Two estimations specified in item 66201/66202	66203	Fee: \$11.60	Benefit: 75% \$8.70:	85%/\$26.80 \$9.90
+	Three estimations specified in item 66201/66202	66205	Fee: \$13.60	Benefit: 75% \$10.20:	85%/\$26.80 \$11.60
+	Four estimations specified in item 66201/66202	66207	Fee: \$15.60	Benefit: 75% \$11.70:	85%/\$26.80 \$13.30
+	Five estimations specified in item 66201/66202	66209	Fee: \$17.60	Benefit: 75% \$13.20:	85%/\$26.80 \$15.00
+	Six or more estimations specified in item 66201/66202	66211	Fee: \$19.10	Benefit: 75% \$14.35:	85%/\$26.80 \$16.25
+	Qualitative estimation by any method, except by reagent strip or dip-stick of the following urine constituents - bilirubin, cystine (cysteine), haemoglobin, melanin (melanogen), myoglobin, porphoblinogen, porphyrin, urobilinogen or pH measurement of body fluids other than urine (excepting urine acidification test), or cryoglobulins or cryofibrinogen in plasma - one or more estimations	66213	Fee: \$9.30	Benefit: 75% \$7.00:	85%/\$26.80 \$7.95
+	Qualitative estimation by any method except by reagent strip or dip-stick of the following faecal constituents - haemoglobin, porphyrins, reducing substances - each estimation, to a maximum of three estimations, taken on separate days	66217	Fee: \$6.20	Benefit: 75% \$4.65:	85%/\$26.80 \$5.30
+	Immunological detection of human haemoglobin in faeces, including any additional services specified in items 66217/66218 - one estimation in any twenty eight day period	66219	Fee: \$11.80	Benefit: 75% \$8.85:	85%/\$26.80 \$10.05
+	Osmolality, estimation by osmometer, in serum or in urine - one or more estimations	66223	Fee: \$23.50	Benefit: 75% \$17.65:	85%/\$26.80 \$20.00

PATHOLOGY		CHEMICAL			
+	Quantitative estimation of blood gases including tests performed from - pO ₂ , oxygen saturation, pCO ₂ , bicarbonate, pH, and any other measurement (eg. haemoglobin, potassium) or calculation performed on the same specimen - one or more estimations on one specimen	66225	Fee: \$32.00	Benefit: 75% \$24.00: 85%/\$26.80	\$27.20
+	Estimation of blood gases as specified in items 66225/66226 on each specimen in excess of 1 to a maximum of 6 specimens within any one day	66227	Fee: \$8.40	Benefit: 75% \$6.30: 85%/\$26.80	\$7.15
+	Calculus, analysis of one or more	66229	Fee: \$29.00	Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80	\$24.65
+	Drug or chemical assays - including all qualitative and quantitative tests on blood, urine or other body fluid for a drug or drugs of abuse, including illegal drugs and legally available drugs taken other than in appropriate dosage, ingested or absorbed toxic chemicals including any services specified in items 66235/66236, 66237/66238 and 66239/66240, but excluding the surveillance of sports people and athletes for performance improving substances - one or more assays	66231	Fee: \$39.00	Benefit: 75% \$29.25: 85%/\$26.80	\$33.15
+	Drug assays - including all qualitative and quantitative estimations on blood, urine or other body fluid for a drug or drugs of abuse or a therapeutic drug on a sample collected from a patient participating in a drug abuse treatment programme, or being treated for drug effects or under a court order or parole board supervision, but excluding the detection of nicotine and metabolites in smoking withdrawal programmes - each assay to a maximum of four assays within any twenty eight day period	66233	Fee: \$19.60	Benefit: 75% \$14.70: 85%/\$26.80	\$16.70
+	Drug assay - quantitative estimation on blood or other body fluid by any method or methods of a drug being used therapeutically for the patient from whom the specimen was taken and not elsewhere specified in the Schedule - one estimation	66235	Fee: \$19.60	Benefit: 75% \$14.70: 85%/\$26.80	\$16.70
+	Two estimations specified in item 66235/66236	66237	Fee: \$27.30	Benefit: 75% \$20.50: 85%/\$26.80	\$23.25
+	Three or more estimations specified in item 66235/66236	66239	Fee: \$35.00	Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80	\$29.75
+	Amniotic fluid, spectrophotometric examination of, estimation of lecithin/sphingomyelin ratio or palmitic acid, phosphatidylglycerol or lamellar body phospholipid - one or more examinations or estimations	66243	Fee: \$31.00	Benefit: 75% \$23.25: 85%/\$26.80	\$26.35

PATHOLOGY		CHEMICAL	
+	Electrophoresis, quantitative or qualitative of serum, urine or other body fluid to demonstrate protein classes or presence and amount of paraprotein, or the isoenzymes of lactate dehydrogenase, alkaline phosphatase and creatine kinase or lipoprotein electrophoresis (only when the Cholesterol is >6.5 mmol/l and Triglyceride >3.0 mmol/l or in the diagnosis of types III and IV hyperlipidaemia), including the preliminary quantitation of total protein, albumin and globulin or of total relevant enzyme activity - one examination to a maximum of two examinations in any twelve month period	66245	Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65
+	Electrophoresis, quantitative or qualitative of concurrently collected, or collected within a twenty eight day period, serum, urine or other body fluid to demonstrate protein classes or presence and amount of paraprotein, including the preliminary quantitation of total protein, albumin and globulin or of total relevant enzyme activity - two or more examinations	66247	Fee: \$43.00 Benefit: 75% \$32.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$36.55
+	Alpha-feto protein, Alpha-1 antitrypsin, Alpha-2 macroglobulin, beta-2 microglobulin, C-1 esterase inhibitor, Caeruloplasmin, Ferritin (unless specified in items 66263/66264), Haptoglobins, Microalbumin (in proven diabetes mellitus), Prealbumin, Prostate Specific Antigen, Prostatic Acid Phosphotase, Transferrin (unless specified in items 66263/66264), and, in the follow up of proven malignancy, Mucin-like carcinoma associated antigen, CA-125 antigen, CA-19.9 antigen, CA-15.3 antigen, Carcinoembryonic antigen, Mammary serum antigen, Neuron specific enolase, Thyroglobulin - quantitative estimation in serum, urine or other body fluid - one estimation	66251	Fee: \$18.80 Benefit: 75% \$14.10: 85%/\$26.80 \$16.00
+	Two or more estimations specified in item 66251/66252	66253	Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75
+	Iron studies consisting of quantitative analysis of iron, transferrin or iron binding capacity and ferritin	66263	Fee: \$37.00 Benefit: 75% \$27.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.45
+	Serum B12, serum folate - one or more estimations within any twenty eight day period	66265	Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00
+	Red cell folate and serum B12 and, if required, serum folate, to a maximum of three estimations in any twelve month period	66267	Fee: \$42.50 Benefit: 75% \$31.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$36.15
+	Vitamins, quantitative estimation in blood, urine or other body fluid, by direct or indirect means, of Vitamins A, B1, B2, B3, B6, C, and E - one or more estimations within any six month period	66269	Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65
+	Vitamin D or D fractions - one or more estimations	66271	Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65

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PATHOLOGY		CHEMICAL
+ 66273	Acetoacetate, alcohol, aminoacids, ammonia, angiotensin converting enzyme, betahydroxybutyrate, cholinesterase, cystine (cysteine), total free fatty acids, histamine, hydroxyindoleacetic acid, hydroxyproline, lactate, neonatal bilirubin (one or more fractions), oxalate, pyruvate, serotonin, xylose, zinc - one quantitative estimation Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00	
+ 66275	Two or more estimations specified in item 66273/66274 Fee: \$36.50 Benefit: 75% \$27.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.05	
+ 66277	Aluminium, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, copper, chromium, gold, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, strontium - in blood, urine or other body fluid or tissue - one or more estimations within any six months Fee: \$33.00 Benefit: 75% \$24.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$28.05	
+ 66279	Blood lead estimation, other than for occupational health screening purposes, to a maximum of three estimations in any six month period - each estimation Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65	
+ 66281	Porphyrins (one or more fractions), Catecholamines (one or more fractions), Hydroxy Methoxy Mandelic Acid (HMMA), Homovanillic Acid (HVA), Metanephrines, Methoxy Hydroxy Phenylethylene Glycol (MHPG), Phenyl Acetic Acid (PAA) - quantitative including any qualitative estimations - one or more estimations Fee: \$37.50 Benefit: 75% \$28.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.90	
+ 66283	Faecal Fat, Breath Hydrogen measurements in response to loading with disaccharides - one or more quantitative estimations within any twenty eight day period Fee: \$37.50 Benefit: 75% \$28.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.90	
+ 66285	Solid tissue or tissues excluding blood elements - assay of one or two enzymes Fee: \$37.50 Benefit: 75% \$28.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.90	
+ 66287	Assay of three to five enzymes as specified in item 66285/66286 Fee: \$70.00 Benefit: 75% \$52.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$59.50	
+ 66289	Assay of six or more enzymes as specified in item 66285/66286 Fee: \$93.00 Benefit: 75% \$69.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$79.05	
+ 66291	Thyroid function tests, including thyrotrophin (TSH) and at least one or more of the following tests - free thyroxine index, free thyroxine, free T3, total T3, thyroxine binding globulin Fee: \$39.00 Benefit: 75% \$29.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$33.15	
+ 66293	Thyrotrophin releasing hormone (TRH) test, including provision and administration of TRH and all necessary estimations of hormones Fee: \$46.50 Benefit: 75% \$34.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$39.55	
+ 66295	Growth hormone suppression by glucose loading, Growth hormone stimulation by exercise, Dexamethasone suppression test, L-Dopa stimulation of growth hormone, where physically performed by a recognised pathologist - one or more procedures Fee: \$11.00 Benefit: 75% \$8.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$9.35	

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PATHOLOGY		CHEMICAL			
+	Gonadotrophin releasing hormone stimulation test, Synacthen stimulation test, Glucagon stimulation test with C-peptide measurement, Pentagastrin stimulation of thyrocalcitonin release, Secretin stimulation of gastrin release, Insulin hypoglycaemia, Arginine infusion, where physically performed by a recognised pathologist - one procedure				
66297	Fee: \$37.00	Benefit: 75%	\$27.75:	85%/\$26.80	\$31.45
+	Two or more procedures specified in item 66297/66298				
66299	Fee: \$59.00	Benefit: 75%	\$44.25:	85%/\$26.80	\$50.15
+	Hormones and hormone binding proteins, quantitative estimation by any method of - ACTH, Aldosterone, Androstenedione, C-peptide, Calcitonin, Cortisol, Cyclic AMP, DHEAS, 11-Deoxycortisol, Dihydrotestosterone, FSH, Gastrin, Glucagon, Growth hormone, Human Placental Lactogen, Hydroxyprogesterone, Insulin, LH, Oestradiol, Oestriol, Oestrone, Progesterone, Prolactin, PTH, Renin, Sex hormone binding globulin, Somatomedin C(IgF1), free or total Testosterone, TSH (where not requested as part of a thyroid function test), Urine steroid fraction or fractions, Vasoactive intestinal peptide, Vasopressin (anti diuretic hormone) - one estimation				
66301	Fee: \$30.00	Benefit: 75%	\$22.50:	85%/\$26.80	\$25.50
+	Two estimations specified in item 66301/66302				
66303	Fee: \$40.60	Benefit: 75%	\$30.45:	85%/\$26.80	\$34.55
+	Three estimations specified in item 66301/66302				
66305	Fee: \$51.20	Benefit: 75%	\$38.40:	85%/\$26.80	\$43.55
+	Four estimations specified in item 66301/66302				
66307	Fee: \$61.80	Benefit: 75%	\$46.35:	85%/\$26.80	\$52.55
+	Five estimations specified in item 66301/66302				
66309	Fee: \$72.40	Benefit: 75%	\$54.30:	85%/\$26.80	\$61.55
+	Six or more estimations specified in item 66301/66302				
66311	Fee: \$83.00	Benefit: 75%	\$62.25:	85%/\$26.80	\$70.55
+	Hormone receptor assay on proven primary breast or ovarian carcinoma or a metastasis from a breast or ovarian carcinoma or a subsequent lesion in the breast - one or more assays				
66315	Fee: \$76.00	Benefit: 75%	\$57.00:	85%/\$26.80	\$64.60
+	HDL cholesterol, or apolipoprotein B/A1 ratio, estimation of, in patients with serum cholesterol >5.5mmol/l or those on prescribed lipid lowering drugs - each estimation to a maximum of four estimations in any twelve month period				
66317	Fee: \$11.80	Benefit: 75%	\$8.85:	85%/\$26.80	\$10.05
+	Glycosylated haemoglobin only when performed in the management of established diabetes - each estimation to a maximum of four estimations in any twelve month period				
66321	Fee: \$52.00	Benefit: 75%	\$39.00:	85%/\$26.80	\$44.20

66321

Quantitative estimation of alpha-feto protein, human chorionic gonadotrophin, oestriol or any other substance, to detect foetal abnormality in pregnancy, including any services specified in items 66251, 66301, 73527 and 73529

1/3/92

Fee: \$52.00

Benefit: 75% \$39.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$44.20

PATHOLOGY	MICROBIOLOGY
GROUP P3 - MICROBIOLOGY	
+	<p>Microscopic examination of material other than blood, from one or more sites, obtained directly from a patient and excluding material from cultures - wet film, including differential cell count if performed, examination for dermatophytes or dark ground illumination, or stained preparation or preparations using any relevant stain or stains - one or more examinations</p> <p>69201 Fee: \$7.00 Benefit: 75% \$5.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.95</p>
+	<p>Microscopic examination of faeces for parasites using concentration techniques including the use of appropriate stains, to a maximum of three estimations taken on separate days including any services specified in item 69201/69202 - each estimation</p> <p>69203 Fee: \$11.80 Benefit: 75% \$8.85: 85%/\$26.80 \$10.05</p>
+	<p>The cultural examination and microscopical examination when indicated (including the detection of antigens not elsewhere specified in the Schedule) to determine the presence of pathogenic micro-organisms, including fungi but excluding viruses, from nasal swabs, throat swabs, eye swabs and ear swabs, including pathogen identification and antibiotic sensitivity testing, including any additional services specified in item 69201/69202 - one or more sites</p> <p>69205 Fee: \$18.40 Benefit: 75% \$13.80: 85%/\$26.80 \$15.65</p>
+	<p>Microscopical and cultural examination (including the detection of antigens not elsewhere specified in the Schedule) to determine the presence of pathogenic micro-organisms, including fungi but excluding viruses, from the following sites - skin or other superficial sites, urethra, vagina, cervix or rectum (except for faecal pathogens), or specimens of sputum (except when part of item 69213/69214), including pathogenic identification and antibiotic sensitivity testing, including any services specified in items 69201/69202, 69205/69206 - one or more examinations on one or more specimens</p> <p>69207 Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95</p>
+	<p>Microscopical and cultural examination (including the detection of antigens not elsewhere specified in the Schedule) of post-operative wounds, aspirations of body cavities, synovial fluid, CSF and operative or biopsy specimens for the presence of pathogenic micro-organisms, including fungi but excluding viruses, involving aerobic and anaerobic culture and the use of different culture media and including pathogen identification and antibiotic sensitivity testing, including any services specified in items 69201/69202, 69205/69206 and 69207/69208 - one or more sites</p> <p>69209 Fee: \$36.50 Benefit: 75% \$27.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$31.05</p>
+	<p>Cultural examination (including the detection of clostridial toxins or antigens not elsewhere specified in the Schedule) of faeces to determine the presence or absence of faecal pathogens, involving the use of at least two selective or enrichment media as well as culture in at least two different atmospheres and includes pathogen identification and antibiotic sensitivity testing, including any services specified in item 69201/69202, to a maximum of three specimens in any seven day period - each examination</p> <p>69211 Fee: \$44.50 Benefit: 75% \$33.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$37.85</p>
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PATHOLOGY		MICROBIOLOGY	
+ 69213	Microscopy with appropriate stains and cultural examinations of three specimens of sputum, urine or other bodily fluids for mycobacteria and any other bacterial pathogens, including pathogen identification and antibiotic sensitivity testing and including any services specified in item 69201/69202 Fee: \$62.00 Benefit: 75% \$46.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$52.70		
+ 69215	Blood culture to determine the presence or absence of pathogenic micro-organisms excluding viruses, including serial cultures and sub-cultures, any relevant cultural methods and any tests necessary to identify any cultured pathogen and necessary antibiotic sensitivity testing - each set of cultures to a maximum of three sets Fee: \$16.20 Benefit: 75% \$12.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.80		
+ 69217	Urine examination including serial examination, with cell count, relevant stained preparations, culture, colony count by any method, identification of any cultured pathogens, antibiotic sensitivity testing when necessary, and with any relevant general examination for pH, specific gravity, blood, albumin, urobilinogen, sugar, acetone or bile salts (Simple culture by dip slide is excluded from this item) Fee: \$19.00 Benefit: 75% \$14.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$16.15		
+ 69219	Direct detection of the antigens of Haemophilus influenzae, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Neisseria meningitidis, Group B streptococcus (in CSF and urine specimens only), RSV, cryptococcal antigens and Varicella zoster or detection of Clostridium difficile toxin except where item 69211/69212 has been performed - one or more estimations Fee: \$15.60 Benefit: 75% \$11.70: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.30		
+ 69221	Direct detection of Chlamydia from clinical material, not cultures - one or more estimations Fee: \$9.30 Benefit: 75% \$7.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$7.95		
+ 69223	Direct detection of Herpes simplex from clinical material, not cultures - one or more estimations Fee: \$9.30 Benefit: 75% \$7.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$7.95		
+ 69225	Investigation for Herpes simplex virus (one or more types) or Chlamydia trachomatis, in material obtained directly from a patient, by one or more cultural methods, including any services specified in items 69221/69222 and 69223/69224 Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95		
+ 69227	All microbiological serology during pregnancy, which must include the determination of Rubella immune status, syphilis serology and Hepatitis B surface antigen and including all services in Items 69229/69230, 69243/69244 and 69245/69246, except in the investigation of a clinically apparent intercurrent microbial illness during that pregnancy Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95		
+ 69229	Antibodies to microbial or exogenous antigens not elsewhere specified in the Schedule - estimation of one antibody Fee: \$13.30 Benefit: 75% \$10.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$11.35		

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PATHOLOGY		MICROBIOLOGY			
+ 69231	Two estimations specified in item 69229/69230 Fee: \$20.30 Benefit: 75% \$15.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$17.30				
+ 69233	Three estimations specified in item 69229/69230 Fee: \$27.30 Benefit: 75% \$20.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$23.25				
+ 69235	Four estimations specified in item 69229/69230 Fee: \$34.30 Benefit: 75% \$25.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.20				
+ 69237	Five estimations specified in item 69229/69230 Fee: \$41.30 Benefit: 75% \$31.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$35.15				
+ 69239	Six or more estimations specified in item 69229/69230 Fee: \$48.30 Benefit: 75% \$36.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$41.10				
+ 69243	Hepatitis B surface antigen test Fee: \$13.20 Benefit: 75% \$9.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$11.25				
+ 69245	Hepatitis B serology to define the immune status of an individual, including at least Hepatitis B surface antibody or Hepatitis B core antibody tests, including services specified in items 69243/69244, 69247/69248 and 69249/69250 Fee: \$17.80 Benefit: 75% \$13.35: 85%/\$26.80 \$15.15				
+ 69247	All serological tests performed for the identification of the agent causing acute Hepatitis, which must include Hepatitis B surface antigen, Hepatitis B core antibody and Hepatitis A IgM antibody tests and those services specified in items 69243/69244, 69245/69246 and 69249/69250 Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75				
+ 69249	All tests performed in the follow up of a patient with proven Hepatitis B, including Hepatitis B surface antigen and either Hepatitis Be antigen or Hepatitis B surface antibody tests, including services specified in items 69243/69244 and 69245/69246 Fee: \$25.50 Benefit: 75% \$19.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$21.70				
+ 69251	Antibiotics or anti-microbial chemo-therapeutic agents, concentration in serum, urine or other body fluid, by direct quantitative measurement of the agent - one or more estimations Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00				

PATHOLOGY		IMMUNOLOGY
GROUP P4 - IMMUNOLOGY		
+	Examination for, and identification of, a paraprotein (not previously identified), the presence of which is suggested by other tests (eg item 66245/66246, 66247/66248 or 71005/71006), on serum, urine or other body fluid, or examination of CSF for oligoclonal proteins by immunoelectrophoresis or immunofixation - one or more procedures	
71001	Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65	
+	Examination for, and identification of, a paraprotein (not previously identified), the presence of which is suggested by other tests (eg item 66245/66246, 66247/66248 or 71005/71006) on serum and urine concurrently collected - two or more procedures	
71003	Fee: \$43.00 Benefit: 75% \$32.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$36.55	
+	Immunoglobulins G, A, M or D, quantitative estimation in serum, urine or other body fluid, by any method- estimation of one immunoglobulin	
71005	Fee: \$14.00 Benefit: 75% \$10.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$11.90	
+	Two estimations specified in item 71005/71006	
71007	Fee: \$21.70 Benefit: 75% \$16.30: 85%/\$26.80 \$18.45	
+	Three or more estimations specified in item 71005/71006	
71009	Fee: \$29.40 Benefit: 75% \$22.05: 85%/\$26.80 \$25.00	
+	Subclasses of Immunoglobulin G, 1 to 4, estimation where there is a reduced level of clinical significance of either total IgG or IgA - one or more estimations	
71011	Fee: \$43.00 Benefit: 75% \$32.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$36.55	
+	Immunoglobulin E (total), quantitative estimation by any method or methods, with a maximum of two estimations in any twelve month period	
71013	Fee: \$24.50 Benefit: 75% \$18.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.85	
+	Specific IgG or IgE antibodies to potential allergens - one or more tests for single or multiple allergens with a maximum of four estimations in any twelve month period	
71015	Fee: \$22.50 Benefit: 75% \$16.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$19.15	
+	Antinuclear antibodies, detection in serum or other body fluids, including quantitation if required	
71017	Fee: \$23.50 Benefit: 75% \$17.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$20.00	
+	Measurement of DNA binding (by Farr or equivalent assay, but excluding the Crithidia method), performed only where a positive antinuclear antibody titre of 1 in 40 or greater has been obtained	
71019	Fee: \$28.50 Benefit: 75% \$21.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.25	
+	Antibodies to extractable nuclear antigens, detection of in serum or other body fluids	
71021	Fee: \$19.60 Benefit: 75% \$14.70: 85%/\$26.80 \$16.70	
+	Characterization of antibodies to extractable nuclear antigens, performed only where a positive result is obtained including services specified in item 71021/71022	
71023	Fee: \$31.00 Benefit: 75% \$23.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$26.35	
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PATHOLOGY		IMMUNOLOGY			
+ 71025	Antibodies to tissue antigens which are not elsewhere specified in an item in the Schedule - estimation of one antibody Fee: \$23.00 Benefit: 75% \$17.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$19.55				
+ 71027	Two estimations specified in item 71025/71026 Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95				
+ 71029	Three estimations specified in item 71025/71026 Fee: \$31.00 Benefit: 75% \$23.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$26.35				
+ 71031	Four or more estimations specified in item 71025/71026 Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75				
+ 71033	Rheumatoid factor, detection of by any technique Fee: \$9.30 Benefit: 75% \$7.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$7.95				
+ 71035	Quantitation of Rheumatoid factor where detected, including services specified in item 71033/71034 Fee: \$18.40 Benefit: 75% \$13.80: 85%/\$26.80 \$15.65				
+ 71037	Complement - total and components - one quantitative estimation Fee: \$15.40 Benefit: 75% \$11.55: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.10				
+ 71039	Two estimations specified in item 71037/71038 Fee: \$23.10 Benefit: 75% \$17.35: 85%/\$26.80 \$19.65				
+ 71041	Three or more estimations specified in item 71037/71038 Fee: \$30.80 Benefit: 75% \$23.10: 85%/\$26.80 \$26.20				
+ 71043	Leucocyte fractionation as a preliminary to leucocyte marker or leucocyte function tests Fee: \$29.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$24.65				
+ 71045	Functional tests for leucocytes, including use of all appropriate techniques (except E. rosette technique or similar) and any test specified in the HAEMATOLOGY GROUP of the Schedule Fee: \$48.50 Benefit: 75% \$36.40: 85%/\$26.80 \$41.25				
+ 71047	Leucocyte surface marker characterization by immunofluorescence or immunoenzyme techniques to assess lymphoid populations using a minimum of three monoclonal antibodies, including any services in item 71049/71050 - one or more estimations Fee: \$62.00 Benefit: 75% \$46.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$52.70				
+ 71049	Leucocyte surface marker characterization by immunofluorescence or immunoenzyme techniques in the investigation of a probable haematological malignancy using a minimum of seven monoclonal antibodies, including any services in item 71047/71048 - one or more estimations Fee: \$148.00 Benefit: 75% \$111.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$125.80				

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PATHOLOGY		IMMUNOLOGY			
+ 71051	HLA typing comprising A, B, C and DR phenotypes Fee: \$66.00	Benefit: 75%	\$49.50:	85%/\$26.80	\$56.10
+ 71053	HLA typing, excluding any services specified in item 71051/71052 - one or more antigens Fee: \$27.00	Benefit: 75%	\$20.25:	85%/\$26.80	\$22.95
+ 71055	Mantoux test Fee: \$9.30	Benefit: 75%	\$7.00:	85%/\$26.80	\$7.95
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PATHOLOGY	HISTOPATHOLOGY
GROUP P5 - HISTOPATHOLOGY	
+ 72801	Histopathology examination of biopsy material including all tissue processing, staining and professional opinion or opinions Fee: \$75.00 Benefit: 75% \$56.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$63.75
+ 72803	Immediate frozen section diagnosis of biopsy material, including any other histopathology examination Fee: \$122.00 Benefit: 75% \$91.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$103.70
+ 72805	Immunohistochemical investigation of biopsy material by one or more of immunofluorescent, immunoperoxidase or other labelled antibody techniques including any other histopathology examination Fee: \$93.00 Benefit: 75% \$69.75: 85%/\$26.80 \$79.05
+ 72807	Electron microscopy of biopsy material including any other histopathology examination Fee: \$99.00 Benefit: 75% \$74.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$84.15
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PATHOLOGY		CYTOPATHOLOGY	
GROUP P6 - CYTOPATHOLOGY			
+	73043	Cytological examination including serial examinations of smears from skin, nipple discharge, lip, mouth, nose or anus for detection of pre-cancerous or cancerous changes - one or more examinations. Fee: \$14.40 Benefit: 75% \$10.80: 85%/\$26.80 \$12.25	
+	73045	Cytological examination including serial examinations for malignant cells of body fluids, sputum (single specimen), urine (single specimen), washings or brushings not specified in item 73043/73044 and any histopathological service performed on that cytology specimen - one or more examinations Fee: \$28.00 Benefit: 75% \$21.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$23.80	
+	73047	Cytological examination including examination of a series of three sputum or urine specimens for malignant cells Fee: \$58.00 Benefit: 75% \$43.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$49.30	
+	73049	Cytological examination of material obtained from a patient by fine needle aspiration of solid tissue or tissues Fee: \$35.00 Benefit: 75% \$26.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$29.75	
+	73051	Cytological examination of material obtained from a patient by fine needle aspiration of solid tissue or tissues where the aspiration is performed by a recognised pathologist; or where a recognised pathologist attends the aspiration and performs cytological examination during the attendance Fee: \$66.00 Benefit: 75% \$49.50: 85%/\$26.80 \$56.10	
+	73053	Routine cytological examination of smears from the cervix for detection of pre-cancerous or cancerous changes in women with no symptoms, signs or recent history suggestive of cervical neoplasia and smears repeated due to an unsatisfactory routine smear - each examination <i>(See para PP. of explanatory notes to this Category)</i> Fee: \$12.00 Benefit: 75% \$9.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$10.20	
+	73055	Cytological examination of smears from cervix in association with the management of previously detected abnormalities including pre-cancerous or cancerous conditions, or the investigation of women with symptoms, signs or recent history suggestive of cervical neoplasia, not associated with Items 73053/73054 - each examination <i>(See para PP. of explanatory notes to this Category)</i> Fee: \$12.00 Benefit: 75% \$9.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$10.20	
+	73057	Cytological examination of smears from vagina, not associated with Items 73053/73054 or 73055/73056 - each examination <i>(See para PP. of explanatory notes to this Category)</i> Fee: \$12.00 Benefit: 75% \$9.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$10.20	

PATHOLOGY		CYTOGENETICS
GROUP P7 - CYTOGENETICS		
+	Chromosome studies, including preparation, count and karyotyping of one or more of amniotic fluid, bone marrow, skin and any other tissue or fluid excluding blood - one or more estimations <i>(See para PP. of explanatory notes to this Category)</i>	
73281	Fee: \$128.00 Benefit: 75% \$96.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$108.80	
+	Chromosome studies, including preparation, count and karyotyping of blood <i>(See para PP. of explanatory notes to this Category)</i>	
73283	Fee: \$116.00 Benefit: 75% \$87.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$98.60	
+	Chromosome identification by banding techniques (using fluorescein, Giemsa, or centromere staining or high resolution analysis); or by fragile X-site determination - one or more identifications	
73285	Fee: \$99.00 Benefit: 75% \$74.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$84.15	

AMENDED DESCRIPTION

73045

1/3/92

Cytological examination, other than an examination mentioned in Item 73053, for malignancy, including serial examinations and histological services performed on the resulting specimens from washings or brushings from sites not specified in item 73043, or performed on a single specimen of sputum or urine or on one or more specimens of other body fluids - one or more examinations

Fee: \$28.00 **Benefit:** 75% \$21.00: 85%/\$26.80 \$23.80

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PATHOLOGY		INFERTILITY & PREGNANCY TESTS	
GROUP P8 - INFERTILITY AND PREGNANCY TESTS			
+	73521	Semen examination for presence of spermatozoa or examination of cervical mucus for spermatozoa (Huhner's test) Fee: \$6.50 Benefit: 75% \$4.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.55	
+	73523	Semen examination, involving measurement of volume, sperm count, motility, examination of stained preparations, morphology, and, if performed, differential count and one or more chemical tests, with a maximum of four examinations in any twelve month period Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95	
+	73525	Sperm antibodies, sperm penetrating ability - one or more tests Fee: \$17.40 Benefit: 75% \$13.05: 85%/\$26.80 \$14.80	
+	73527	Chorionic gonadotrophin (beta - HCG), qualitative estimation in serum or urine by one or more methods, including serial dilution if performed, for diagnosis of pregnancy - one or more estimations Fee: \$9.50 Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10	
+	73529	Chorionic gonadotrophin (beta-HCG), qualitative (if performed) and quantitative estimation in serum by one or more methods for diagnosis of hydatidiform mole, HCG - secreting neoplasm, threatened abortion or follow-up of abortion Fee: \$27.00 Benefit: 75% \$20.25: 85%/\$26.80 \$22.95	
LEGEND: † New Service ‡ Description Amended + Fees Amended @ AU Units Amended * Item no.Changed February 1, 1992 Page 26			

PATHOLOGY	SIMPLE BASIC PATHOLOGY TESTS
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	GROUP P9 - SIMPLE BASIC PATHOLOGY TESTS
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+	73801	Seminal examination for presence of spermatozoa Fee: \$6.20 Benefit: 75% \$4.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.30	
+	73802	Blood count consisting of leucocyte count, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, examination of blood film (including differential leucocyte count) or any or all of haemoglobin estimation, haematocrit estimation or erythrocyte count - one procedure. Fee: \$4.15 Benefit: 75% \$3.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$3.55	
+	73803	Two procedures specified in item 73802 Fee: \$6.20 Benefit: 75% \$4.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.30	
+	73804	Three or more procedures specified in item 73802 Fee: \$8.25 Benefit: 75% \$6.20: 85%/\$26.80 \$7.05	
+	73805	Microscopical examination of urine Fee: \$4.15 Benefit: 75% \$3.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$3.55	
+	73806	Pregnancy test by one or more immunochemical methods Fee: \$10.15 Benefit: 75% \$7.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.65	
+	73807	Microscopical examination of wet film other than urine Fee: \$6.20 Benefit: 75% \$4.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.30	
+	73808	Microscopical examination of gram stained film Fee: \$7.85 Benefit: 75% \$5.90: 85%/\$26.80 \$6.70	
+	73809	Chemical tests for occult blood in faeces by reagent stick, strip, tablet or similar method Fee: \$2.10 Benefit: 75% \$1.60: 85%/\$26.80 \$1.80	
+	73810	Microscopical examination screening for fungi in skin, hair or nails - one or more sites Fee: \$6.20 Benefit: 75% \$4.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$5.30	
+	73811	Mantoux test Fee: \$10.15 Benefit: 75% \$7.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.65	

PATHOLOGY		PATIENT EPISODE INITIATION	
GROUP P10 - PATIENT EPISODE INITIATION			
†	Initiation of a patient episode ^{which consists only of} by collection of specimen for a service specified in Item 73053, 73055 or 73057 from a person who is not in a recognised hospital or a prescribed laboratory	Fee: \$7.50	Benefit: 75% \$5.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$6.40
†	Initiation of a patient episode ^{which consists only of} by collection of specimen for a service specified in Item 72801 from a person who is an in-patient of a hospital other than a recognised hospital	Fee: \$13.50	Benefit: 75% \$10.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$11.50
†	Initiation of a patient episode ^{which consists only of} by collection of specimen for a service specified in Item 72801 from a person who is not an in-patient of a private hospital and not a patient of a recognised hospital	Fee: \$7.50	Benefit: 75% \$5.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$6.40
†	^{Initiation of a} Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected in a licensed collection centre other than a temporary licensed collection centre	Fee: \$15.50	Benefit: 75% \$11.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.20
†	^{Initiation of a} Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected by an approved pathology practitioner or an employee of an approved pathology authority from a person who is an in-patient of a hospital other than a recognised hospital	Fee: \$15.50	Benefit: 75% \$11.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.20
†	^{Initiation of a} Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected by an approved pathology authority, from a person in the place where the person was residing or in a nursing home or institution	Fee: \$15.50	Benefit: 75% \$11.65: 85%/\$26.80 \$13.20
†	^{Initiation of a} Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected from the person ^{73901, 73903, 73905} by the person	Fee: \$9.50	Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10
†	^{Initiation of a} Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected by or on behalf of the treating practitioner	Fee: \$9.50	Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10

PATHOLOGY

PATIENT EPISODE INITIATION

† 73917	<i>Initiation of a</i> Patient episode initiated by collection of specimen for a service other than a service specified in Items 73901, 73903, 73905 and 73801 to 73811 (inclusive) where the specimen is collected in a temporary licensed collection centre Fee: \$9.50 Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10
(Empty)	(Empty)

PATHOLOGY	SPECIMEN REFERRED
GROUP P11 - SPECIMEN REFERRED	
† 73921	Referral of specimen by an approved pathology practitioner of an approved pathology authority to another approved pathology practitioner of another approved pathology authority or to another approved pathology authority Fee: \$9.50 Benefit: 75% \$7.15: 85%/\$26.80 \$8.10
LEGEND: † New Service ‡ Description Amended + Fees Amended @ AU Units Amended * Item no.Changed February 1, 1992 Page 30	