



# Changes to multidisciplinary case conference items for complex neurodevelopmental disorders and eligible disabilities

Last updated: 1 February 2024

- From 1 March 2024, changes will be made to Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS) complex neurodevelopmental disorders and eligible disabilities multidisciplinary case conference items.

## What are the changes?

The age eligibility of multidisciplinary case conference items 82001, 82002 and 82003 will be increased for patients from under 13 years to under 25 years.

## Why are the changes being made?

This change aligns the age eligibility requirements for complex neurodevelopmental disorder and eligible disability MBS services.

This change is a result of a review by the MBS Review Taskforce (Taskforce), which was informed by the Allied Health Reference Group. More information about the Taskforce and associated Committees is available on the [Department of Health and Aged Care website](#). The clinical committee final reports can be found at [the Department's website](#).

## What does this mean for providers?

The changes will allow eligible allied health professionals to receive a payment for participating in multidisciplinary case conferences for patients aged under 25 years who have, or are suspected of having, a complex neurodevelopmental disorder or eligible disability.

The items are only available for eligible allied health professionals who are invited to attend a multidisciplinary case conference by the patient's treating medical practitioner.

Eligible allied health professionals include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners; Aboriginal health workers; audiologists; mental health nurses; mental health workers; occupational therapists; optometrists; orthoptists; physiotherapists; psychologists; speech pathologists and social workers. Eligible allied health professionals must meet the requirements as set out in the *Health Insurance (Allied Health Services) Determination 2014* (determination).

From 1 March 2024, this determination will be remade as the [Health Insurance \(Section 3C General Medical Services – Allied Health Services\) Determination 2024](#).

Other providers can continue to participate in case conferences; however, this will not attract an MBS benefit.

## How will these changes affect patients?

These changes support patients under 25 years who have, or are suspected of having, a complex neurodevelopmental disorder or eligible disability through the payment of eligible allied health professionals to participate in a multidisciplinary case conference.

## Who was consulted on the changes?

Consultation on the changes was undertaken through the Allied Health ILG. Members of the ILG included Audiology Australia, Australian Autism Alliance, AMA, Australian Physiotherapy Association, Australian Podiatry Association, APS, Indigenous Allied Health Australia, NBPSA, Occupational Therapy Australia, Orthoptics Australia, Osteopathy Australia, RACGP, Services for Australian Rural and Remote Indigenous and Allied Health and Speech Pathology Australia.

## How will the changes be monitored and reviewed?

The department regularly reviews the usage of new and amended MBS items in consultation with the profession. 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 full item descriptor(s) and information on other changes to the MBS can be found on the MBS Online website at [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au). You can also subscribe to future MBS updates by visiting [MBS Online](#) and clicking 'Subscribe'.

The department provides an email advice service for providers seeking advice on interpretation of the MBS items and rules and the *Health Insurance Act 1973* and associated regulations. If you have a query relating exclusively to interpretation of the Schedule, you should email [askMBS@health.gov.au](mailto:askMBS@health.gov.au).

Private health insurance information on the product tier arrangements is available at [www.privatehealth.gov.au](http://www.privatehealth.gov.au). Detailed information on the MBS item listing within clinical categories is available on the [department's website](#). Private health insurance minimum accommodation benefits information, including MBS item accommodation classification, is available in the latest version of the *Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Rules 2011* found on the [Federal Register of Legislation](#). If you have a query in relation to private health insurance, you should email [PHI@health.gov.au](mailto:PHI@health.gov.au).

Subscribe to '[News for Health Professionals](#)' on the Services Australia website and you will receive regular news highlights.

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 the Services Australia on the Provider Enquiry Line – 13 21 50.

The data file for software vendors when available can be accessed via the [Downloads](#) 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 factsheet is current as of the Last updated date shown above and does not account for MBS changes since that date.**