

Multiparametric Prostate MRI

From July 1 2018, Medicare rebates became available for new MBS items covering mpMRI prostate scans for both the diagnosis of prostate cancer (item 63541) and the active surveillance of patients with a proven diagnosis following a biopsy histopathology (item 63543).

MBS ITEM NUMBERS AND DESCRIPTIONS

These item numbers can be requested by specialist in the speciality of Urology, Radiation Oncology or Medical Oncology. The request for the scan must identify that the patient is:

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
63541 DIAGNOSIS	<p>suspected of developing prostate cancer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a digital rectal examination (DRE) which is suspicious for prostate cancer; or a person aged less than 70 years, at least two prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests performed within an interval of 1- 3 months are greater than 3.0 ng/ml, and the free/total PSA ratio is less than 25% or the repeat PSA exceeds 5.5 ng/ml; or a person aged less than 70 years, whose risk of developing prostate cancer based on family history is at least double the average risk , at least two PSA tests performed within an interval of 1- 3 months are greater than 2.0 ng/ml, and the free/total PSA ratio is less than 25%; or a person aged 70 years or older, at least two PSA tests performed within an interval of 1- 3 months are greater than 5.5ng/ml and the free/total PSA ratio is less than 25%. <p>Note: Relevant family history is a first degree relative with prostate cancer or suspected of carrying a BRCA 1, BRCA 2 mutation.</p> <p>Medicare benefits for MBS item 63541 are only payable once per patient in a twelve month period.</p>
63543 SURVEILLANCE	<p>scan of the prostate for the assessment of cancer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is under active surveillance following a confirmed diagnosis of prostate cancer by biopsy histopathology; and is not undergoing, or planning to undergo, treatment for prostate cancer <p>Benefits for MBS item 63543 are payable for patients with proven diagnosis of prostate cancer following biopsy histopathology who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have not had a diagnostic mpMRI, and are placed on active surveillance following confirmed diagnosis; or 12 months following confirmed diagnosis and then every third year thereafter; or <p>at any time there is a clinical concern, or concern with PSA progression.</p> <p>Note: MBS item 63543 is not to be used for the purpose of treatment, planning or for monitoring after treatment</p>

These items include the use of contrast (unless contraindicated) using a standardised images acquisition protocol involving T2- and diffusion- weighted imaging.