

Bulk billing incentives

Summary of explanatory notes and web links

	Bulk Billing Incentive for Unreferred General Medical Services #10990, #10991	Bulk Billing Incentive for Unreferred General Medical Services, provided after hours #10992	Bulk Billing Incentive for Unreferred Diagnostic Imaging Services #64990, #64991	Bulk Billing Incentive for Unreferred Pathology Services #74990, #74991
Steps that must be taken to claim the Medicare item, and associated rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of an unreferred general medical service (listed in the General Medical Services table of the MBS) to a person who is under the age of 16 or is a Commonwealth concession card holder and who is not an admitted patient of a hospital or day hospital facility That service must be bulk billed, and then the bulk billing incentive item can be claimed alongside it. The bulk billing incentive must also be bulk billed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of an after hours unreferred medical service (any of MBS items 1, 97, 601, 697, 5003, 5007, 5010, 5023, 5026, 5028, 5043, 5046, 5049, 5063, 5064, 5067, 5220, 5223, 5227, 5228, 5240, 5243, 5247, 5248, 5260, 5263, 5265 or 5267) to a person who is under the age of 16 or is a Commonwealth concession card holder and who is not an admitted patient of a hospital or day hospital facility That service must be bulk billed, and then the bulk billing incentive item can be claimed alongside it. The bulk billing incentive must also be bulk billed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of an unreferred diagnostic imaging service (all services listed in Category 5 – Diagnostic Imaging Services in the MBS) by a medical practitioner or specialist with dual qualifications to a person who is under the age of 16 or is a Commonwealth concession card holder and who is not an admitted patient of a hospital or day hospital facility That service must be bulk billed, and then the bulk billing incentive item can be claimed alongside it. The bulk billing incentive must also be bulk billed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of an unreferred pathology service (listed in Group P9 of the Pathology Services table of the MBS, and unreferred pathology services provided by category M laboratories) by a medical practitioner or specialist with dual qualifications to a person who is under the age of 16 or is a Commonwealth concession card holder and who is not an admitted patient of a hospital or day hospital facility That service must be bulk billed, and then the bulk billing incentive item can be claimed alongside it. The bulk billing incentive must also be bulk billed
Medicare rules relating to frequency of claims	As long as the business rules for the unreferred medical service are met, and the business rules for the bulk billing bonus item number are also met, there are no limits as to the number of bulk billing bonus item numbers that can be claimed.			
Main information web link	www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-medicare-health_pro-gp-index.htm			

All information is current as at September 2008. Health professionals intending to use these items should refer to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) book or to the Allied Health and Dental Services MBS booklet for more comprehensive information, including the MBS requirements for each item. Alternatively, they can search for specific items at www9.health.gov.au/mbs or telephone Medicare Australia on 03 9605 7964 or contact the local Division of General Practice.