

Common MBS item numbers for general practitioners

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[MBS Item Numbers for GPs](#)

A one page list of the most commonly used MBS item numbers used in general practice. (Last updated: 12 November 2006) [57 Kb]

For better or worse, general practitioners who chose to run a bulk billing practice must wade through the arcane tome that is the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS). Despite Medicare Australia's attempts to make this volume "user friendly" with copious indices, colour coding and cross-referencing, it is nevertheless futile using it to find an item number on-the-fly. Although the MBS has now been [released on-line](#), I still find it next to useless given its primitive search capabilities.

The problem is that the numbers themselves make no sense and each item in the MBS has been categorised by a bean counter and written in legalese. You've just excised a basal cell carcinoma? If you don't know the number, it will take you the next 10 minutes working out which of the **33** items that refer to BCC excision is in fact the correct one.

The fact is, most general practitioners wouldn't commonly use more than just a few item numbers regularly. I've created a one page list of what would be commonly used item numbers that are used by GPs. It is slightly biased towards the sort of practice I perform (for example, I don't do health assessments or most SIPs).

Archive

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