

## Overview of the General Practice Nurse MBS Items

On 1 February 2004, as part of the "Strengthening Medicare" package, the Australian Government introduced new Medicare rebates payable through the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS), for a general practice nurse to provide immunisation and wound management services on behalf of a GP. All vocationally registered and non-vocationally registered GPs are eligible to claim these item numbers. Below is a summary of the practice nurse item numbers, including the new cervical screening item numbers available from 1 November 2006. For further information visit the Medicare Australia website at [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/) or the Medicare Benefits Schedule Book online at [www9.health.gov.au/mbs](http://www9.health.gov.au/mbs) **Please note: bulk billing item no. 10990 can be claimed in conjunction with the below Practice Nurse MBS item numbers.**

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MEDICARE REBATE (100%)	COMMENTS
<b>IMMUNISATION</b>			
10993	Immunisation provided by a Practice Nurse on behalf of a GP	\$10.60	Can be provided in consulting room, home visit, residential aged care facility or other institution other than a hospital.
<b>WOUND MANAGEMENT</b>			
10996	Wound management is provided by a Practice Nurse on behalf of a GP.	\$10.60	Can be provided in any location, except a hospital or day-hospital facility. Can be used for the treatment of any wound, except for normal post-operative aftercare.
<b>CERVICAL SCREENING</b>			
10998	Pap smear performed by an appropriately trained practice nurse	\$10.60	All cervical screening item numbers cannot be claimed by a consultant or physician.
10999	Pap smear performed by a practice nurse on a woman between ages of 20 and 69 who have not had a pap smear in the last 4 years	\$10.60	Items 10998 and 10999 can not be claimed in conjunction with items 10994 or 10995.
10994	Pap smear performed by an appropriately trained practice nurse <b>and at least one preventative health check performed</b>	\$21.25	Preventative health checks include: checks for sexually transmitted infections (including Chlamydia), taking of a sexual and reproductive history, advice on contraception, breast awareness education, advice on post natal issues, continence advice and education. In addition, checks may also include smoking, nutritional, alcohol and physical activity (SNAP) risk factor assessment and BP.
10995	Pap smear performed by a practice nurse <b>and at least one preventative health check performed</b> on a woman between ages of 20 and 69 who have not had a pap smear in the last 4 years	\$21.25	