

Guide to MBS After Hours Item Numbers

Desktop Guide to assist with the billing of all After Hours MBS Item numbers.

To access MBS items numbers online – <http://www.mbsonline.gov.au>

PROLONGED ATTENDANCE IN TREATMENT OF A CRITICAL CONDITION

These items can be claimed at **any time of the day** and any day of the week.

- The Patient must be in imminent danger of death
- One or more medical practitioners can claim these items for simultaneous attendance on one patient and
- The time spent by the practitioner does not have to be continuous.

Item No	Item Description	Time –	MBS Benefit
160	CRITICAL CONDITION, prolonged attendance in treatment of	1-2 hours	\$217.15
161	CRITICAL CONDITION, prolonged attendance in treatment of	2-3 hours	\$361.90
162	CRITICAL CONDITION, prolonged attendance in treatment of	3-4 hours	\$506.50
163	CRITICAL CONDITION, prolonged attendance in treatment of	4-5 hours	\$651.50
164	CRITICAL CONDITION, prolonged attendance in treatment of	>5 hours	\$723.90

Medicare generally classifies clinic hours as 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 12pm Saturday.
Use the table below to determine which item number is applicable to after hours:

GROUP A1 – Vocationally Registered

GROUP A2 – Non-Vocationally Registered

Attendance Period (type of attendance)	Start Time of Attendance			Group A1		Group A2	
	Monday to Friday	Saturday	Sunday & Public Holidays	Item Number	MBS Benefit	Item Number	MBS Benefit
Urgent attendance – after hours	7am – 8am or 6pm – 11pm	7am – 8am or 12noon – 11pm	7am – 11pm	597	\$127.25	598	\$104.75
Urgent attendance – unsociable hours	11pm – 7am	11pm – 7am	11pm – 7am	599	\$150	600	\$124.25
Non-urgent after hours at consulting rooms	6pm – 8pm			3,23,36, 44		52, 53, 54, 57	
Non-urgent after hours at consulting rooms	Before 8am or after 8pm	Before 8am or after 1pm	All day	5000, 5020, 5040, 5060 (see table over page)		5200, 5203, 5207, 5208 (see table over page)	
Non-urgent after hours at a place other than consulting rooms	Before 8am or after 6pm	Before 8am or after 12noon	All day	5003, 5010, 5023, 5028 (see table over page)		5220, 5223, 5227, 5228 (see table over page)	

URGENT ATTENDANCE AFTER-HOURS

- These items can only be used for the first patient, if more than one patient is seen on the one occasion. For the second and subsequent patients attending on the same occasion, standard (non-urgent) after-hours items apply. If two patients are seen on the same day but at different times, then this must be noted on the Medicare claim “separate call-outs”
- The urgent after-hours items can only be used where the patient has a medical condition that requires urgent treatment, which could not be delayed until the next in-hours period.
- For consultations at the health centre, it is necessary for the practitioner to return to, and specially open the consulting rooms for the attendance.
- For times and days these items apply, see table above.

NON-URGENT AFTER-HOURS ATTENDANCES

- These items are for medical services that are rendered after-hours in a consulting room, home, residential aged care facility, or institution (not hospital)
- Urgent attendance after-hours items (above) can only be used for the first patient, if more than one patient is seen on the once occasion. For the second and subsequent patients attending on the same occasion, standard after-hours items apply (see table over page)
- For times and days these items apply, see above table.

Below is the description of consultation levels for GROUP A1 doctors:

LEVEL A Straightforward cases e.g. immunisation

LEVEL B, C & D

Professional attendance by GP involving, where clinically relevant:

- Taking a history*;
- Undertaking clinical examination;
- Arranging any necessary investigation;
- Implementing a management plan;
- Providing appropriate preventative health care; in relation to one or more health related issues, with appropriate documentation

*Level B: taking a selective history; Level C: taking a detailed history; Level D: taking an extensive history

AT THE HEALTH CENTRE				
5000	After Hours BRIEF	LEVEL A	GROUP A1	\$28.45
5020	After Hours STANDARD	LEVEL B <20 minutes	GROUP A1	\$48.05
5040	After Hours LONG	LEVEL C >20 minutes	GROUP A1	\$82.30
5060	After Hours PROLONGED	LEVEL D >40 minutes	GROUP A1	\$115.45
5200	After Hours BRIEF	<5 minutes	GROUP A2	\$21.00
5203	After Hours STANDARD	5 – 25 minutes	GROUP A2	\$31.00
5207	After Hours LONG	25 – 45 minutes	GROUP A2	\$48.00
5208	After Hours PROLONGED	>45 minutes	GROUP A2	\$71.00

Home Visits	RACFS	HOME VISITS (consultation at a place other than consulting rooms) and RACFS			
5003	5010	After Hours BRIEF	LEVEL A	GROUP A1	See table below
5023	5028	After Hours STANDARD	LEVEL B <20 minutes	GROUP A1	See table below
5043	5049	After Hours LONG	LEVEL C >20 minutes	GROUP A1	See table below
5063	5067	After Hours PROLONGED	LEVEL D >40 minutes	GROUP A1	See table below
5220	5260	After Hours BRIEF	<5 minutes	GROUP A2	See table below
5223	5263	After Hours STANDARD	5 – 25 minutes	GROUP A2	See table below
5227	5265	After Hours LONG	25 – 45 minutes	GROUP A2	See table below
5228	5267	After Hours PROLONGED	>45 minutes	GROUP A2	See table below

The following table lists the benefits for After Hours Home Visits

No of PATIENTS	AFTER HOURS HOME VISITS – GROUP A1				AFTER HOURS HOME VISITS – GROUP A2			
	LEVEL A ITEM 5003	LEVEL B ITEM 5023	LEVEL C ITEM 5043	LEVEL D ITEM 5063	BRIEF ITEM 5220	STANDARD ITEM 5223	LONG ITEM 5227	PROLONGED ITEM 5228
One	\$53.90	\$73.50	\$107.75	\$140.90	\$34.00	\$43.50	\$61.00	\$83.00
Two	\$41.15	\$60.75	\$95.00	\$128.15	\$26.25	\$34.75	\$53.25	\$75.25
Three	\$36.95	\$56.55	\$90.80	\$123.95	\$23.65	\$31.85	\$50.65	\$72.65
Four	\$34.80	\$54.40	\$88.65	\$121.80	\$22.35	\$30.35	\$49.35	\$71.35
Five	\$33.55	\$53.15	\$87.40	\$120.55	\$21.60	\$29.50	\$48.60	\$70.60
Six	\$32.70	\$52.30	\$86.55	\$119.70	\$21.10	\$28.90	\$48.10	\$70.10
Seven +	\$30.40	\$50.00	\$84.25	\$117.40	\$19.20	\$26.70	\$46.20	\$68.20

The following Lists the After Hours Residential Aged Care Visits

No of PATIENTS	AFTER HOURS RACF VISITS – GROUP A1				AFTER HOURS RACF VISITS – GROUP A2			
	LEVEL A ITEM 5010	LEVEL B ITEM 5028	LEVEL C ITEM 5049	LEVEL D ITEM 5067	BRIEF ITEM 5260	STANDARD ITEM 5263	LONG ITEM 5265	PROLONGED ITEM 5267
One	\$74.25	\$93.85	\$128.10	\$161.25	\$46.45	\$57.55	\$73.45	\$95.45
Two	\$51.35	\$70.95	\$105.20	\$138.35	\$32.45	\$41.75	\$59.45	\$81.45
Three	\$43.70	\$63.30	\$97.55	\$130.70	\$27.80	\$36.50	\$54.80	\$76.80
Four	\$39.90	\$59.50	\$93.75	\$126.90	\$25.50	\$33.90	\$52.50	\$74.50
Five	\$37.60	\$57.20	\$91.45	\$124.60	\$24.10	\$32.30	\$51.10	\$73.10
Six	\$36.10	\$55.70	\$89.95	\$123.10	\$23.15	\$31.25	\$50.15	\$72.15
Seven +	\$31.70	\$51.30	\$85.55	\$118.70	\$19.75	\$27.25	\$46.75	\$68.75