

## MBS Taskforce Review: Changes to **General Surgery Items** 1 July 2021

Changes to the General Surgery services on the MBS will be implemented from **1 July 2021** as part of the major reforms being undertaken by the MBS Taskforce Review.

The Department of Health have released a series of [Factsheets](#) online, including **Reference Guides for each surgical category** which outline these changes in full. ASPS have compiled changes relevant to our members below.

Please ensure you familiarise yourselves with these changes to ensure appropriate billing practices.

The **Reference Guides** and relevant changes have been grouped into the following surgical categories:

- |                                  |                           |                                |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>1. Lymph Nodes</b>            | <a href="#">Guide pdf</a> | <a href="#">Guide word doc</a> |
| <b>2. Excisions</b>              | <a href="#">Guide pdf</a> | <a href="#">Guide word doc</a> |
| <b>3. Abdominal Wall Hernias</b> | <a href="#">Guide pdf</a> | <a href="#">Guide word doc</a> |

Please refer to the relevant section **Reference Guide** for the full suite of item changes in that category. Below are select items.

NOTE: These changes are still subject to legislative review so there may be minor changes to the wording and indexation of the fees. These will be minor, however, such that the clinical intent will not change.

# I. LYMPH NODES

**Deleted item 30096** - Diagnostic scalene node biopsy, by open procedure, if the specimen excised is sent for pathological examination

**Deleted item 31420** - Lymph node of neck, biopsy of

**COMBINE TO BECOME**



**New item 30820**

## **30820 - Biopsy of lymph node of neck**

**Overview:** Introducing a new item that combines items 30096 (diagnostic scalene node biopsy, by open procedure, where the specimen excised is sent for pathological examination) and 31420 (biopsy of lymph node of neck). Items 30096 and 31420 will be deleted.

**Item Descriptor:** Lymph node of neck, biopsy of by open procedure, where the specimen excised is sent for pathological examination (Anaes.)

**MBS fee:** \$189.65

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type B - Non band specific Type B day procedure

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Ear, nose and throat

# 2. EXCISIONS

**Amended item**

## **30676 - Excision of pilonidal sinus or cyst, or sacral sinus or cyst**

**Overview:** Reference to 'definitive' excision which better describes the procedure.

**Item Descriptor:** Pilonidal sinus or cyst, or sacral sinus or cyst, definitive excision of

**MBS fee:** \$390.90

**Proposed PHI Classification:** A – Surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Skin

**Explanatory Note TN.8.# Excision of pilonidal sinus - (item 30676)**

**Overview:** Introducing a new explanatory note to state that where a flap is required in conjunction with item 30676, item 45203 can be claimed for this purpose.

**Explanatory note text:**

Where a fasciocutaneous flap is required to close the pilonidal sinus excision defect item 45203 (single stage local flap to repair defect) can be co-claimed with item 30676.

**Amended item****30055 - Dressing of wounds under general, regional or intravenous sedation**

**Overview:** Providing flexibility to use the most appropriate sedation for the patient.

**Item Descriptor:** Wounds, dressing of, under general, regional or intravenous sedation, with or without removal of sutures, other than a service associated with a service to which another item in this Group applies (Anaes.)

**MBS fee:** \$76.25

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type B - Non-band specific Type B day procedures

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Skin

### **3. ABDOMINAL WALL HERNIAS**

**Deleted item 30609** Femoral or inguinal hernia, laparoscopic repair of, other than a service associated with a service to which item 30614 applies

**Deleted item 30614** Femoral or inguinal hernia or infantile hydrocele, repair of, on a person 10 years of age or over, other than a service to which item 30403 or 30615 applies

**COMBINE TO BECOME 30740**

**New item 30740****30740 - Repair of femoral or inguinal hernia or infantile hydrocele**

**Overview:** Introducing a new item that combines existing items 30609 (laparoscopic repair of femoral or inguinal hernia) and 30614 (repair of femoral, inguinal hernia, infantile hydrocele). Items 30609 and 30614 will be deleted.

**Item Descriptor:** Femoral or inguinal hernia or infantile hydrocele, repair of by open or minimally invasive approach, on a person 10 years of age or over, not being a service to which item 30403 or 30615 applies (Anaes.) (Assist.)

**MBS fee:** \$479.05

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type A - Surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Hernia and appendix

## New item 30741

### 30741 – Reconstruction of an abdominal wall defect of 7 cms or greater

**Overview:** Item 30741 will be introduced to provide for the reconstruction of an abdominal wall defect of 7cm or greater and items 30621, 30403, and 30405 will be revised to reflect increasing size of hernia.

**Item Descriptor:** Abdominal wall reconstruction of a defect 7 cms or greater in transverse dimension and loss of abdominal domain, with or without mesh, but requiring muscle transposition or component separation to achieve closure, other than a service to which item 30621 or 30403 or 30406 or 30405 applies (Anaes.) (Assist.)

**MBS fee:** \$1343.55

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type A - Advanced surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Digestive system

## Amended item

### 30621 - Repair of symptomatic ventral, umbilical, epigastric, linea alba or incisional hernia with a hernial defect less than 3 cm

**Overview:** Providing for repair of a hernia defect size of less than 3 cm in transverse dimension, providing for open or minimally invasive approach for repair.

**Item Descriptor:** Symptomatic ventral, umbilical, epigastric, linea alba or incisional hernia with a hernial defect less than 3 cm in transverse dimension, repair of, with or without mesh, by open or minimally invasive approach, in a person 10 years of age or over, other than a service to which item 30403 or 30405 or 30741 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

**MBS fee:** \$420.20

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type A - Surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Digestive system

## Amended item

### 30403 - Repair of ventral, incisional, or umbilical hernia, with a hernial defect 3 cm or greater but less than 7 centimetres

**Overview:** Providing for repair of hernia defect size of 3 cm or greater but less than 7 centimetres in transverse dimension, or a recurrent groin hernia (any size). Providing for open or minimally invasive approach for repair.

**Item Descriptor:** Ventral, incisional, or umbilical hernia, with a hernial defect 3 cm or greater but less than 7 centimetres in transverse dimension, or a recurrent groin hernia regardless of size of defect, repair of, with or without mesh, by open or minimally invasive approach, in a person 10 years of age or over, other than a service to which item 30621 or 30405 or 30741 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

**MBS fee:** \$537.55

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type A - Surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Common list

## Amended item

### **30405 - Repair of ventral, incisional, or umbilical hernia with a hernial defect 7 centimetres or greater**

**Overview:** Providing for repair of hernia defect size of 7 centimetres or greater in transverse dimension, providing for open or minimally invasive approach for repair.

**Item Descriptor:** Ventral, incisional, or umbilical hernia with a hernial defect 7 centimetres or greater in transverse dimension, repair of, with or without mesh, by open or minimally invasive approach, in a person 10 years of age or over, other than a service to which item 30621 or 30403 or 30741 applies (H) (Anaes.) (Assist.)

**MBS fee:** \$943.55

**Proposed PHI Classification:** Type A - Advanced surgical patient

**Proposed Clinical Category:** Common list