

Medicare Pathology Item Limits

MBS Item	Test Name	MBS Rules and Comments
65175 65181	Active Protein C (APC) Resistance, protein C deficiency, protein S deficiency, lupus anticoagulant, antithrombin III deficiency	Patient has a history of venous thromboembolism
66539	Lipoprotein LEPC	Patient has cholesterol >6.5 mmol/L and triglyceride >4.0 mmol/L or in the diagnosis of types II and IV hyperlipidaemia 2 patient episodes in a 12 month period
66551	HbA1c	Maximum of 4 tests in a 12 month period for established diabetes (include 'diabetes' in clinical notes)
66554	HbA1c (in pregnancy)	Maximum of 6 tests in a 12 month period for established diabetes in pregnancy (include 'diabetes' in clinical notes)
66557	Fructosamine	Used in the management of established diabetes. Maximum of 4 tests in a 12 month period for established diabetes
66626	Urine Drug Screen (UDS) – monitoring	36 patient episodes in a 12 month period; patient participating in a drug abuse treatment program.
66655	Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) – Total (screening)	1 patient episodes in a 12 month period
66656	Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA)- monitoring diagnosed prostatic disease	No limits
66659 66660	PSA (Total & Free)	Only one test per patient per year in the follow-up of a PSA result that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lies at or above the age related median but below the age related, or equal to the age-related upper reference limit. 1 test per 12 month period; or b. Lies at or above the age related, upper reference limit, but below 10 ug/L. 4 tests per 12 month period.

MBS Item	Test Name	MBS Rules and Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Refers to item no 66659, and 2. Refers to 66660. d. Covers those patients in the normal range but greater than the age median which there is some evidence for doing an frPSA. e. Covers those patients over the reference interval but less than 10, where there is evidence for doing an frPSA, for 4/year.
66665	Lead quantitation in blood or urine (other than for occupational health screening purposes)	Maximum of 3 tests in a 6 month period
66719	Free T4 (FT4); Free T3 (FT3)	<p>At least one of the following conditions is satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The patient has an abnormal level of TSH; b. The tests are performed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. For the purpose of monitoring thyroid disease in the patient; or ii. To investigate the sick euthyroid syndrome if the patient is an admitted patient; or iii. To investigate dementia or psychiatric illness of the patient; or iv. To investigate amenorrhoea or infertility of the patient; c. The medical practitioner who requested the tests suspects the patient has a pituitary dysfunction; d. The patient is on drugs that interfere with thyroid hormone metabolism or function <p>The condition must be noted on the request form.</p>
66750	Quantitation, in pregnancy, of any 2 of the following to detect foetal abnormality - total human chorionic gonadotrophin (total HCG), free alpha human chorionic gonadotrophin (free alpha HCG), free beta human chorionic gonadotrophin (free beta HCG), pregnancy associated plasma protein A (PAPP-A), unconjugated oestriol (uE3), alpha-fetoprotein (AFP).	<p>Once per pregnancy</p> <p>This is for first or second trimester downs screening in someone already pregnant.</p> <p>Not to be confused with pregnancy test/HCG (73527)</p>
66819	Copper, Zinc, Manganese, Selenium	3 patient episodes in 6 month period
66833 66836	25-hydroxyvitamin D, quantification in serum	<p>At least one of the following conditions is satisfied (include in 'clinical notes' to bulk-bill this item):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. has signs or symptoms of osteoporosis or osteomalacia; or b. has increased alkaline phosphatase and otherwise normal liver

MBS Item	Test Name	MBS Rules and Comments
		<p>function tests; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. has hyperparathyroidism, hypo- or hypercalcaemia, or hypophosphataemia; or d. is suffering from malabsorption (for example, because the patient has cystic fibrosis, short bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease or untreated coeliac disease, or has had bariatric surgery); or e. has deeply pigmented skin, or chronic and severe lack of sun exposure for cultural, medical, occupational or residential reasons; or f. is taking medication known to decrease 25OH-D levels (for example, anticonvulsants); or g. has chronic renal failure or is a renal transplant recipient; or h. is less than 16 years of age and has signs or symptoms of rickets; or i. is an infant whose mother has established vitamin D deficiency; or j. is a exclusively breastfed baby and has at least one other risk factor mentioned in a paragraph in this item; or k. has a sibling who is less than 16 years of age and has vitamin D deficiency l. the request for the test is made by a general practitioner managing the treatment of the patient <p>3 patient episodes (any test combination) in a 12 month period</p>
66838	Vitamin B12, Serum Folate or Red Cell Folate	<p>1 patient episodes (any test combination) in a 12 month period.</p> <p>For folate testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Requires adequate clinical information on the pathology request form confirming that the patient is at risk of folate deficiency (i.e. macrocytic anaemia, coeliac disease, malabsorption syndrome) b. Any request for "folate" testing (whether the request is specifically for "red cell folate" or not) will have a serum folate determined first, and then a red cell folate result provided, only if the serum folate is low.
69345 69336 69339	Faeces for culture and Ova, Cysts and Parasites (OCP) examination	<p>Culture – 1 request in a 7 day period</p> <p>OCP – 2 requests in a 7 day period</p>

MBS Item	Test Name	MBS Rules and Comments
69491 69445 69499	Hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotype	At least one of the following conditions is satisfied (include in 'clinical notes' to bulk-bill): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The patient is HCV RNA positive and is being evaluated for antiviral therapy of chronic HCV hepatitis; and b. The request for the test is made by, or on the advice of, the specialist or consultant physician managing the treatment of the patient; Maximum of 1 test in a 12 month period
71075 71077	Immunoglobulin E (IgE) – Total	2 patient episodes in a 12 month period
71079	Specific IgE antibodies to single or multiple allergens (RAST)	4 patient episodes in a 12 month period
71095	Eosinophil Cationic Protein	A maximum of 3 assays in 1 year, for monitoring the response to therapy in corticosteroid treated asthma, in a child aged less than 12 years
71135	Neutrophil Function	Quantitation of neutrophil function, comprising at least 2 of the following conditions is satisfied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. chemotaxis; b. phagocytosis; c. oxidative metabolism; d. bactericidal activity; Maximum of 2 in a 12 month period
73295	BRCA1 or BRCA2	At least one of the following conditions is satisfied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. including copy number variation in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) BRCA1 genes; and (ii) BRCA2 genes; and (iii) one or more of the genes STK11, PTEN, CDH1, PALB2 and TP53; and b. in a patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) with breast, ovarian, fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer; and (ii) for whom clinical and family history criteria (as assessed, by the specialist or consultant physician who requests the service, using a quantitative algorithm) place the patient at greater than 10% risk of having a pathogenic or likely pathogenic gene

MBS Item	Test Name	MBS Rules and Comments
		<p>variation identified in one or more of the genes specified in subparagraphs (a) (i), (ii) and (iii);</p> <p>Requested by a specialist or consultant physician</p> <p>Maximum of one test per patient's lifetime</p>
73308	Factor V Leiden Gene Mutation PCR	Proven venous thrombosis or pulmonary embolism