

Hospital Circular

Distribution: Public Hospitals

Subject:

1. Public Hospital Prostheses Fees
2. Day Only Arrangements - Amendments

Purpose: The purpose of this Circular is to advise hospitals of the above, and of new arrangements for obtaining the prosthesis list.

1. PUBLIC HOSPITAL PROSTHESES FEES

Basic Table Benefits for Surgically Implanted Prostheses March 1996 Review

The Commonwealth Minister's Determination for the purposes of paying benefits from the basic private table for prostheses (hereafter "Determination") has been revised **effective from 27 March 1996**. The Commonwealth advises the levels of benefits for a number of items have been changed to more accurately reflect the current cost of the items.

Arrangements for obtaining Determinations

Effective immediately, the March 1996 Determination and all Revisions thereafter are only available direct from the Commonwealth, at a charge, and in electronic disk format.

Accordingly, the State (and the Commonwealth) Department ceases the distribution of hard copies of revised Determinations. Hospitals are now responsible for:

- obtaining all future revised Determinations including the March 1996 Determination, in electronic format (disk) directly from the Commonwealth;
- replacing the prior Determination in accordance with date of effect of the most current revision; and
- updating copies of the State fees manual "*Fees and Charges for Acute Health Services in Victoria: A Handbook for Public Hospitals*"

Related additional information received by the State from the Commonwealth, such as list of deleted codes, and deadline for applications for new items, will continue to be forwarded to hospitals by the State Department.

To obtain a disk (contents detailed below), please make a cheque payable to the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services, and complete the tear off slip attached (of which you are encouraged to make copies for your stationary needs).

The State Department believes public hospitals directly benefit from the above arrangement in the form of more timely advice and associated revenue implications. This is provided hospitals place their purchase order with the Commonwealth **3-4 weeks in advance of the *standing anticipated dates of effect of planned revisions.**

These presently remain ***mid-March and *mid-September** of each year and are not anticipated to change.

Content of disk

The Commonwealth advises that the disks incorporate changes to the product range of some of the existing prostheses. New items and prices appear in bold type.

Codes deleted from the March 1996 Determination

These are listed below to facilitate hospitals identify them:

F028, F030, F036, F049, F121, F137, F316, F318, F326, F328, F332, F333, F334, F336, F338, F444, F446, F448, F450, F452, F391, F379, F616, F617,
G179, G195, G229, G357, G920,
H074, H104, H105, H296, H381, H552, H554, H562, H564, H916, H918
J606, J608, J610, J612,
L017, L019, L021, L023
Q537, Q651, Q668, Q722, Q736, Q742, Q744, Q746, Q761, Q764, Q768, Q798, Q800, Q804, Q814, Q824
R392, R396, R398, R399, R40I, R403, R406, R407, R408, R410, R412, R414, R415, R423, R425, R427, R429, R431, R433, R435, R437, R438, R441, R444, R445, R446, R449, R450, R464, R466, R473, R474, R476, R478, R502, R503, R505, R507, R508, R510, R529, R530, R532, R547, R548, R549, R550, R551, R552, R553, R554, R555, R556, R557, R558, R559, R560, R583.

Health Funds will still be able to pay benefits for these items **up to and including 26 March 1996.**

Next Determination

A further Determination is planned for **September 1996** where new items may be added. The deadline for applications for new items to be included on this Determination is **Friday, 17 May 1996.**

Updating the *State's Fees Manual*

As a result of the above could you please make the following amendments to your copy of the *"Fees and Charges for Acute Health Services in Victoria: A Handbook for Public Hospitals"*:

1. **Appendix A: Prostheses Fees** - replace Appendix A: Prostheses Fees; and
2. **Appendix Aa: Homograft Item Fees** - replace Appendix Aa: Homograft Item Fees

IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION ON PROSTHESES, PLEASE TELEPHONE (06) 2898786 24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE - Health Insurance Section, Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services

2. DAY ONLY ARRANGEMENTS - AMENDMENTS TO THE TYPE B AND TYPE C LISTS

Recently the Commonwealth advised that the following number has been removed from the Type C Exclusion list and added to the Type B non-band specific list with effect from 6 March 1996:

16603 - Chorionic Villus Sampling

It also advises the following changes have occurred with effect from 24 April 1996:

REMOVE FROM TYPE B LIST:

32505 Varicose veins, sub-facial ligation of 1 or more incompetent perforating veins

49360 Hip, diagnostic arthroscopy of

49363 Hip, diagnostic arthroscopy of, with synovial biopsy

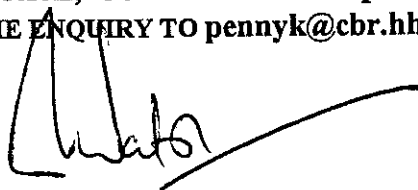
ADD TO THE TYPE C LIST:

11800 Oesophageal motility test, manometric

Accordingly please amend your Type C and B lists in your State fees manual, "*Fees and Charges for Acute Health Services in Victoria: A Handbook for Public Hospitals*" at:

Same Day Patients -page 4, Part 1, Fees for Admitted Patients:-
Attachment A Schedule of **Type-B** professional attention procedures; and
Attachment B Schedule of **Type-C** professional attention procedures

IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION ON DAY ONLY ARRANGEMENTS PLEASE TELEPHONE: (06) 289 8786 - 24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE - Health Insurance Section, Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services OR E-MAIL THE ENQUIRY TO pennyk@cbr.hhcs.gov.au



DR MICHAEL WALSH
DIRECTOR
ACUTE HEALTH SERVICES

Please forward cheque to: Mr Kent Penny (MDP 2)
Health Insurance Section
Department of Health and Family Services
GPO Box 9848
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Please forward me copy/ies of the Schedule of Benefits for Surgically Inserted Protheses on disk at \$15 each. I enclose a cheque made payable to the Commonwealth's Department of Health and Family Services for \$ (total amount).

Name:

Organisation:

Address:
.....
.....
.....

Contact Phone No: (. . .)

Signature:

- *Format: Excel 5.0

 WordPerfect 5.0

 Word for Windows 2.0

(Tick version required)

*It is advisable to check which format would be most compatible to your computer system. The formats available are WordPerfect for Windows 5.2 and Word for Windows 2.0 which are compatible with most other Windows software and Excel 5.0.

Appendix A: Prostheses

Prosthetic appliance charges are based on the schedule of basic table benefits for prostheses as determined by the Commonwealth for the purposes of paying benefits from the basic private table for prostheses.

Prosthetic appliance charges apply to prostheses provided to a private patient in a public or private hospital or to a patient of a day procedure centre.

Arrangements for obtaining Determinations

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- . obtaining all future revised Determinations in electronic format (disk) directly from the Commonwealth;
- . replacing the prior Determination in accordance with date of effect of the most current revision; and
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Related additional information received by the State from the Commonwealth, such as list of deleted codes, and deadline for applications for new items, will continue to be forwarded to hospitals by the State Department.

For timely advice and associated revenue implications, hospitals are encouraged to place their purchase order with the Commonwealth **3-4 weeks in advance of the *standing anticipated dates** of effect of planned revisions. These presently remain *mid-March and *mid-September of each year.

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Date of effect: 26 March 1996

Reference: Circular No. 10/96

Appendix Aa: Homograft Items Fees

Homograft items are listed in the Appendix to the Commonwealth's schedule of basic table benefits for prostheses.

Arrangements for obtaining revised Determinations

As set out in **Appendix A: Prostheses** of this State Fees manual.

Date of effect: 26 March 1996

Reference: Circular No. 10/96