



COMRAD

Medicare Online Claiming Suite

COMRAD MBS Update

Notes

01 July 2021

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Introduction

The Australian Department of Human Services has published a new Medicare Benefits Schedule, effective 01 July 2021. These changes include:

- The MBS indexation factor for 1 July 2021 is 0.9 per cent.
- Indexation was applied to most of the general medical services items, all diagnostic imaging services, except nuclear medicine imaging and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Other minor amendments

- Item 57351 has been amended to provide a patient who has had a service under item 57357 (which is for a repeat CT angiography service) in the previous 12 months, is able to access item 57351.
- Item 63454 will be amended to remove the current 12 month restriction on the claiming of this item and restrict the claiming of this service to once per pregnancy. This change recognises that there may be occasions when a woman has two pregnancies within a 12 month period.

Please carefully read the Medicare online resources, COMRAD changes required, and “how-to” instructions in this document. It will guide you through the actions you need to take prior to 01 July 2021.

If you need further assistance, please contact our Support team on 1800 659 643, helpdesk@comrad.com.au, or log into the Comrad online service portal <https://jira.comrad.com.au/servicedesk/>.

Summary of Actions:

This is a summary of actions that are detailed in the following sections. These actions should be performed where required **in the order listed and prior to 01 July 2021**. Comrad is not able to back-date prices where these actions are not performed in the time prescribed; and are not able to implement other changes for you.

1. Review the MBS changes
2. Import the MBS 01 July 2021 into COMRAD
3. Update MBS-derived Price Lists
4. Advise staff of the increase in fees as of 01 July 2021

1. Review the MBS Changes

- Review Medicare's MBS Changes Summary Page:
<http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/news-210701>
- Review Medicare's Fact Sheets where necessary:
<http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/factsheet-current>

2. Download & Import the 01 July 2021 MBS into COMRAD

- ❑ In your web browser, navigate to the MBS Downloads and select the latest downloads page:

<http://www.mbsonline.gov.au/internet/mbsonline/publishing.nsf/Content/downloads>

- ❑ Scroll down to the Data File section, hold your mouse over the MBS XML link as shown, *right-click*, and select “Save link as” (or your browser equivalent):

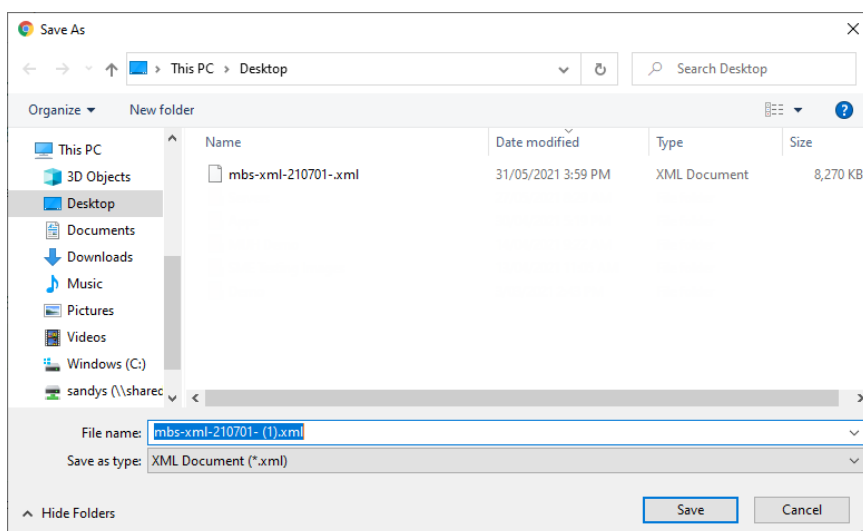
July 2021 Data File (XML) last updated 28 May 2021

File type	Download options	Notes
XML	MBS XML 210701- (7,860 KB)	File updated on 28 May 2021 . Note: This file includes 1 July 2021 indexation and changes to general surgery, orthopaedic services and cardiac services. More information on this is available on the current factsheet page .

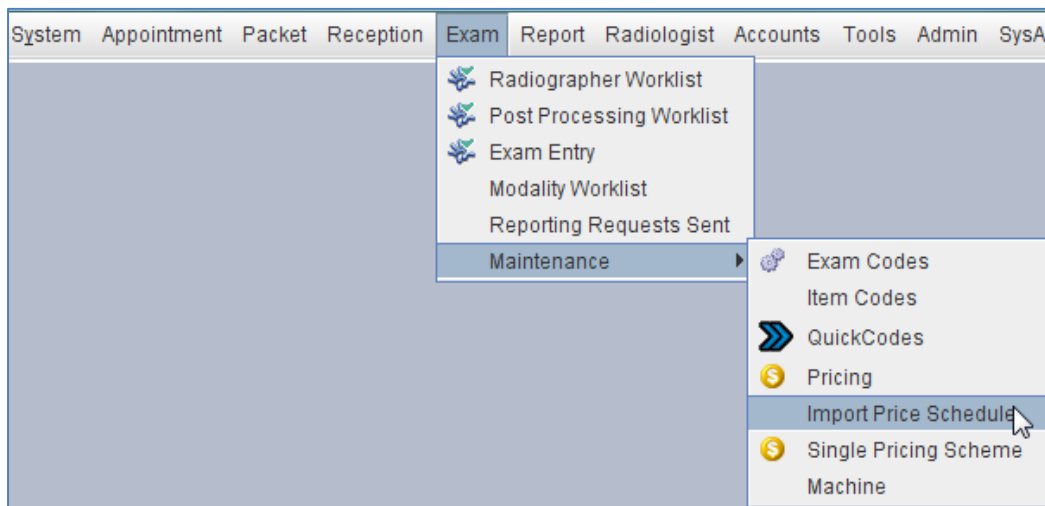
July 2021 Data File (XML) last updated 28 May 2021

File type	Download options
XML	MBS XML 210701 (7,860 KB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open link in new tab Open link in new window Open link in incognito window
Relative Value Guide	RVG File 210701 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save link as...

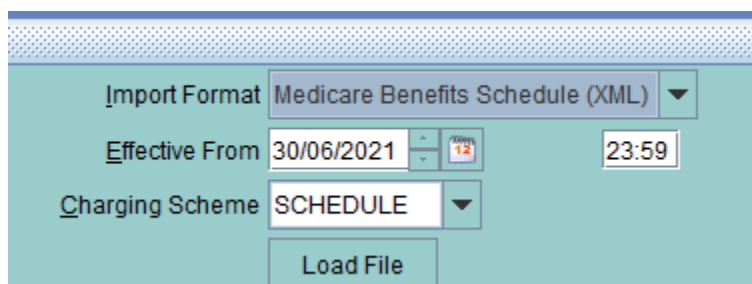
- ❑ In the “Save As” directory list, choose “Desktop” in the tree on the left-hand side, and click the “Save” button:



- In COMRAD, navigate to your “Import Price Schedule” screen:

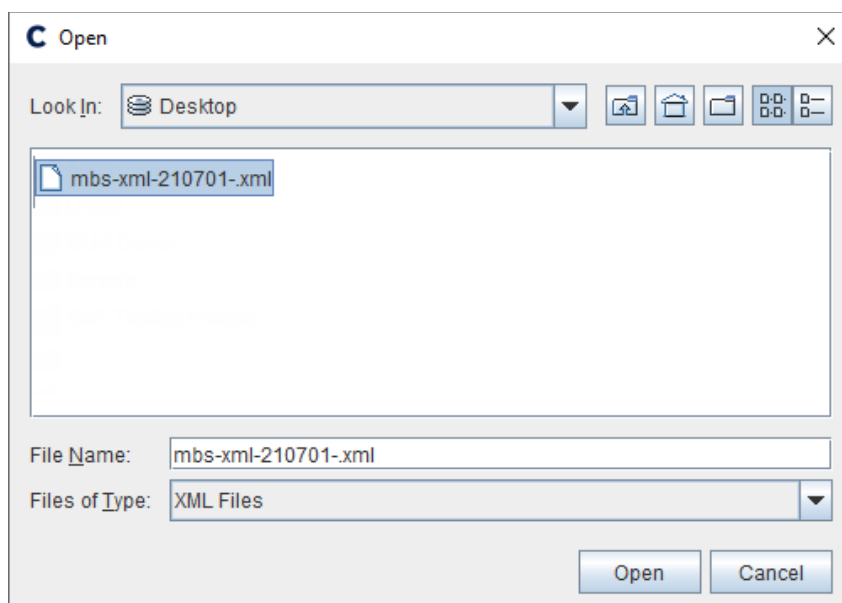


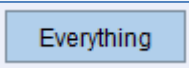
- Set “Import Format” to “**Medicare Benefits Schedule (XML)**”, set “Effective From” to **30/06/2021 23:59**, set “Charging Scheme” to the price list you use for your Medicare Bulk Billing, and click “Load File”:

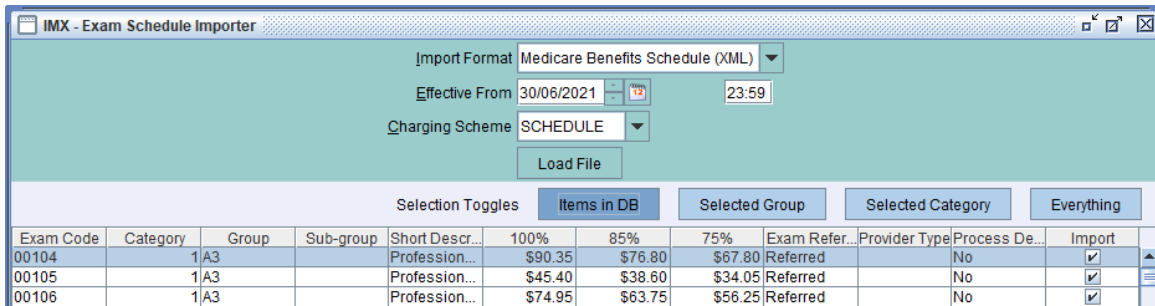


NOTE: The effective date is set to June 30 23:59 to mitigate potential for gap calculator issues.

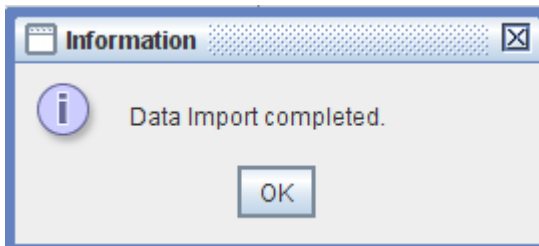
In the file-picker box, change the “Look In” folder to “Desktop”, click on mbs-xml-210701-.xml and click “Open”:



- Click on any row in the table, click the  button:



- Click the  button. Leave the screen open until your data import is completed:



- Close the importer and check your new prices in Exam > Maintenance > Single Pricing Scheme

3. Update Other Price Lists

If you have any pricing schemes that are indexed from the MBS price list, you will need to update the prices.

Do this as you normally would for an MBS update. If you need instructions, please contact Comrad Support.

If you need to update your **Rebate Price Scheme**, download the file and supporting documentation from the Comrad Website [here](#)

4. Update Your Staff on increase to fees

Given the increase of 0.9 % to 90 per cent of diagnostic imaging services, it is recommended that you inform staff and distribute the Medicare fact sheet internally.

Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Section(s)	Change(s)
1.0	31/05/2021	Sandy Saraw	All	Created.

COMRAD

COMRAD MAJOR MBS UPDATE NOTES 01 July
2021

July 2021

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