

MBS items

Skin excisions and biopsies

Fact Sheet

Version 6 / December 2022

Malignant skin lesion surgical excision and repair, specimen is sent for histology (other than by shave excision):

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
<6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31356
>6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31358
<14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31361
>14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31363
<15mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31356, 31358, 31359, 31361 or 31363	31365
15-30mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31356, 31358, 31359, 31361 or 31363	31367
>30mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31356, 31358, 31359, 31361 or 31363	31369

Benign skin lesion including cyst, ulcer or scar, excision and repair of, specimen is sent for histology:

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
<6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31357
>6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31360
<14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31362
>14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31364
<15mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31357, 31360, 31362 or 31364	31366
15-30mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31357, 31360, 31362 or 31364	31368
>30mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31356, 31358, 31359, 31361 or 31363	31370

Tumour, cyst, ulcer or scar, removal of and suture, if specimen excised and sent for histology (other than by shave excision):

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
<10mm	The lesion size is not more than 10 mm in diameter	31206
10-20mm	The removal is from a mucous membrane by surgical excision	31211
>20mm	The removal is from a mucous membrane by surgical excision	31216
<10mm	Each removal is from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue by surgical excision	31220
<10mm	Each removal is from a mucous membrane by surgical excision	31221
>10mm	Each removal is from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane by surgical excision	31225

Malignant melanoma, appendageal carcinoma, malignant connective tissue tumour of skin or merkel cell carcinoma of skin:

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
>6mm	The tumour is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31371
<14mm	The tumour is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31372
>14mm	The tumour is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31373
<15mm	The tumour is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31371, 31372 or 31373	31374
15mm but not >30mm	The tumour is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31371, 31372 or 31373	31375
>30mm	The tumour is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31371, 31372 or 31373	31376

Removal of:

Description	Item number
Excision of ganglion, other than a service associated with a service to which another item in this group applies	30107

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Repair of wounds, skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane:

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
<7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, not on face or neck, small, superficial, not being a service to which another item in group t4 applies	30026
<7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, not on face or neck, small, involving deeper tissue, not being a service to which another item in group t4 applies	30029
<7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, on face or neck, small, superficial	30032
<7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, on face or neck, small, involving deeper tissue	30035
>7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, not on face or neck, large, superficial, not being a service to which another item in group T4 applies	30038
>7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, other than on face or neck, large, involving deeper tissue, other than a service to which another item in group T4 applies	30042
>7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, superficial	30045
>7cm	Skin and subcutaneous tissue or mucous membrane, repair of wound of, other than wound closure at time of surgery, on face or neck, large, involving deeper tissue	30049

Biopsy for diagnostic purposes, sent for pathological examination:

Description	Item number
Diagnostic biopsy of skin, as an independent procedure	30071
Diagnostic biopsy of mucous membrane, as an independent procedure	30072
Diagnostic biopsy of lymph node, muscle or other deep tissue or organ, as an independent procedure	30075

New Medicare benefits schedule (MBS) items for clinical suspected melanoma:

Size of lesion	Description	Item number
<6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31377
>6mm	The lesion is excised from nose, eyelid, eyebrow, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, or from a contiguous area	31378
<14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31379
>14mm	The lesion is excised from face, neck, scalp, nipple-areola complex, distal lower limb (distal to, and including, the knee) or distal upper limb (distal to, and including, the ulnar styloid)	31380
<15mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31377, 31378, 31379 or 31380	31381
>15mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31377, 31378, 31379 or 31380	31382
>30mm	The lesion is excised from any part of the body not covered by item 31377, 31378, 31379 or 31380	31383

Other:

Description	Item number
Wound of soft tissue, traumatic, deep or extensively contaminated, debridement of, under general anaesthesia or regional or field nerve block, including suturing of that wound when performed	30023
Full thickness laceration of ear, eyelid, nose or lip, repair of, with accurate apposition of each layer of tissue	30052

For further information on melanoma excision items changes see [MBS factsheet for melanoma excision services](#).

Source: www.mbsonline.gov.au (Dec 2022) – refer to source for full item details including eligibility & restrictions.

*75% and/or 85%/100% rebate also applies to these item numbers

** items billed per lesion.

Note that the [multiple operation rule](#) applies to procedural items.

Refer to MBS for full patient eligibility guidelines.