



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE CIRCULAR

Medical Benefits Division
Private Health Insurance Branch
Mail Drop Point 954
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PHI 57/11
8 August 2011

AUGUST 2011 PROSTHESES LIST

Purpose

The purpose of this Circular is to inform the health industry that:

- the delegate of the Minister for Health and Ageing has made rules giving effect to a new version of the Protheses List (August 2011); and
- the August 2011 Protheses List commences on 22 August 2011.

The *Private Health Insurance (Protheses) Rules 2011 (No. 2)* ('the Rules') are now available on the Department's website. Please note that the Rules have been registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments (FRLI) with a commencement date of 22 August 2011.

Variations from the previous Protheses List – Part A (Protheses)

The August 2011 Protheses List (Part A) contains the following changes:

- 566 new billing codes (239 for new products, 138 resulting from expansions, 156 resulting from transfers, 19 resulting from compressions and 14 duplications).
- 3,078 billing codes have had amendments to one or more of the following: benefit/s, product information text, product groups/subgroups; and
- 605 billing codes have been removed (354 at the request of the sponsor, 42 as a result of compressions, 54 as a result of expansions and 155 as a result of transfers).

Part B - Human Tissue List

No applications were received for new listings for Part B Human Tissue of the Protheses List.

Applications were received for benefit variations to 35 items on Part B Human Tissue List of the Protheses List.

Gap permitted products

There are 1,542 (16.5%) products with potential gaps in part A of the August 2011 Prostheses List.

This is a decrease of 7.9 percentage points from the February 2011 Prostheses List, primarily a result of implementation of the HTA review. Human tissue prostheses in Part B of the Prostheses List do not have gap permitted products.

The August 2011 Prostheses List and associated reports are available on the Department's website: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-privatehealth-prostheselist.htm>

Part C

Circular 25/10 advised that the Private Health Insurance Act 2007 had been amended to facilitate the implementation of Part C of the Prostheses List. It was anticipated that Part C would be implemented for the August 2011 Prostheses List.

PHI Circular 47/11 indicated that implementation had been delayed. However, products that have been identified for listing on Part C (insulin infusion pumps and cardiac event recorders) **will** be so listed for the August 2011 Prostheses List. 16 products on Part A of the Prostheses List that meet the Part C listing criteria have been transferred from Part A to Part C.

If you require further information, please telephone: (02) 6289 9853/24 hr answering machine or email the enquiry to PrivateHealth@health.gov.au

Internet: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2011-index1>

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