

# ACC GP MRI REFERRAL

The purpose of the GP Referred MRI (GPMRI) service is to allow patients whose knee, lumbar (L-Spine) or neck (C-Spine) injuries meet specific clinical criteria to be directly referred for an MRI by trained GPs. This removes the need for patients to visit a specialist before they can access MRI and reduces the time from first assessment to diagnosis.

This service can only be provided by general practitioners who are vocationally registered medical doctors, or medical doctors working in a general practice setting.

General Practitioners must have completed a GPMRI training programme which meets ACC's requirements.

### Eligibility:

- Patient is over 16 years of age.
- Are able to provide informed consent for the referral (or this can be provided by the person who has the legal right to make decisions on the client's behalf).
- Who have an approved ACC claim.
- Who has been assessed by a trained GP as meeting the clinical criteria for relevant clinical pathways.
- Whose claim (from date of claim lodgement with ACC) is not older than 6 months.

### Exclusions:

Nurse practitioners and physiotherapists are not currently eligible to provide this service.

### Initial consult:

- The initial assessment of the condition against the GPMRI Clinical Pathways will be deemed to be part of a standard consultation and billed to ACC and the patient in the usual way.
- Confirm patient meets clinical criteria for referral.
- The GP refers to an ACC contracted HTIS Supplier via the WellSouth PHN Portal, the referral is reviewed before going to HTIS Supplier.

ACC GP MRI Referral to High Tech Imaging Services

New Referral

- The HTIS Supplier will then contact the patient to arrange an appointment for the procedure.

### Post MRI Review:

- No co-payment should be charged to the patient for relaying the results of the MRI and the joint development of the proposed management plan or agreed next steps for the patient, this includes all forms of contact.
- This should occur within 7-14 days of the GP receiving the MRI report (14 days face-to-face, otherwise 7 day).

### Treatment, Rehabilitation and follow up care:

Once the GP has confirmed a plan or next steps for the patient, they will make the necessary arrangements for on-referral, either escalating to specialist, an escalated care pathway or de-escalating to rehabilitation services such as physiotherapy.

### Claiming:

- The initial assessment and referral to MRI generates a zero value claim.
- Claiming for the Post MRI Review is via the WellSouth PHN portal.

ACC GP Referred MRI

New Consult

- Service codes for your PMS—please set these up prior to using the programme.

Programme Payment rates are:

Code	Amount	Description
WPGMRI	\$ 148.35	ACC GP MRI Post Referral

**\$129 +GST** (ACC GP MRI Post Referral)

NOTE: Patients under Accredited Employers are NOT eligible for this programme.