

Medicare vs Risk Protection



When it comes to reimbursement of Personal Injury claims, some people get confused about Medicare, the Medicare Gap and what is covered through the National Risk Protection Programme.

What is Medicare?

Medicare is a Commonwealth Government programme that provides eligible Australian residents with free or low-cost medical and hospital care.

Medicare provides access to:

- Free treatment as a public (Medicare) patient in a public hospital
- Free or subsidised treatment by practitioners such as Doctors and Specialists

What's covered by Medicare?

The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) lists all treatments and associated rebates relating to Medicare. You can access the MBS at any time via Medicare's web site www.medicare.gov.au.

What is the Medicare Gap?

The MBS lists a rebate amount for each Medicare Item.

Example: A short consultation with a Doctor = Medicare rebate of \$15.35

However, some consultations are different. In some cases, doctors or specialists may charge more than the MBS amount.

The difference between what you have been charged and the amount listed on the MBS is called the "Medicare Gap".

Example: The Doctor charges you \$45.00 for a short consultation. Medicare provides a rebate of \$15.35 (as per the MBS). You are out of pocket \$29.65 (this is known as the Medicare Gap).

What's the difference between Medicare and our National Risk Protection Programme?

The Health Insurance Act 1973 (Cth) strictly prohibits any general insurer from covering any item that is listed on the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

This also means that regardless of your out of pocket expenses, it is against the law for the Insurer to cover you for the Medicare Gap.

So what does that mean?

If your medical or other treatment has a Medicare Item Number, it is

uninsurable and you may not claim for reimbursement through JLT Sport.

If your medical or other treatment does not have a Medicare Item Number, you may claim for reimbursement through JLT Sport.

For specific Medicare information please visit

www.medicare.gov.au.

For specific Insurance and Risk Protection information please refer to the "Making a Claim" section of the JLT Sport/Harness Racing Australia website. www.jltsport.com.au

| Player 1 (No Private Health Insurance) | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Service | Fee | Medicare | Private Health | Sport Injury | Total Re-imb | Out pocket |
| General Practitioner | -\$200 | \$100 | - | - | \$100 | -\$100 |
| Surgeon | -\$1,500 | \$400 | - | - | \$400 | -\$1,100 |
| Anaesthetist | -\$1,200 | \$400 | - | - | \$400 | -\$800 |
| Imagery (MRI Scan) | -\$650 | \$300 | - | - | \$300 | -\$350 |
| Hospital fee | -\$1,000 | - | - | \$800 | \$800 | -\$200 |
| Physiotherapy | -\$600 | - | - | \$480 | \$480 | -\$120 |
| Excess | | | - | -\$25 | -\$25 | -\$25 |
| Total | -\$5,150 | | \$0 | \$1,280 | \$1,280 | -\$3,870 |

| Player 2 (With Private Health Insurance) | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Service | Fee | Medicare | Private Health | Sport Injury | Total Re-imb | Out pocket |
| General Practitioner | -\$200 | \$100 | | - | \$100 | -\$100 |
| Surgeon | -\$1,500 | \$400 | \$880 | - | \$1,280 | -\$220 |
| Anaesthetist | -\$1,200 | \$400 | \$640 | - | \$1,040 | -\$160 |
| Imagery (MRI Scan) | -\$650 | \$300 | \$280 | - | \$580 | -\$70 |
| Hospital fee | -\$1,000 | - | \$800 | \$200 | \$1,000 | \$0 |
| Physiotherapy | -\$600 | - | \$270 | \$330 | \$600 | \$0 |
| Excess | | | | | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | -\$5,150 | | \$2,870.00 | \$530 | \$4,600 | -\$550 |

How does Medicare, private health care and sports injury insurance work together?

The table to the left is a guide only to explain an example of how coverage can work and should not be relied upon to make an accurate assessment of actual costs and procedures to be incurred. These will vary from actual costs.

Example : Two players, one with and one without Private Health Insurance, suffer the same injury, require the same treatment and incur the same medical costs.

** Based on 80% private health re-imburement of surgery incurred costs and 45% of extra's cover on physiotherapy N.B.: With Private Health Insurance coverage (to be claimed on before claiming under this program), the person claiming will further reduce the non-Medicare rebate available.*

For more information visit
www.jltsport.com.au