

Australia announces new funding arrangement for surgical consumables

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Private health insurers and hospitals will receive funding for around 500 surgical consumables and general use items.



Australia has announced a new funding arrangement for around 500 surgical general use and consumable items for use by private health insurers and hospitals.

The default benefits for the General Use Bundles will be mandated through changes to the Private Health Insurance Act (Benefit Requirements) Rules 2011. In this way, insurers will clearly define the benefits they will pay to hospitals when these items are used in private surgery. These items include sutures, haemostatic agents and skin glues. By July 2023, changes will be implemented to ensure continued private patient access to these items.

Australian Government has prioritised access to affordable medical devices and that the taxpayer gets value for money, both in the public system and through our support for private health insurance.

Reforms are currently in progress to better align private system prices for surgical devices with those paid within the public health system, and comparable international markets.