

Perth Radiological Clinic

Outpatient Billing Policy Guide

Perth Radiological Clinic (PRC) is a private radiological practice that provides a high quality diagnostic imaging service using only the most up-to-date technology and highly trained medical professionals. We offer a variety of routine and specialist procedures and are the preferred radiological provider for a number of public and private hospitals in Perth.

Our aim is to support the community access affordable quality imaging.

Medicare eligible routine services are Bulk Billed

We are proud to offer bulk billing (no-gap) for routine Medicare eligible services. Any Medicare eligible patient will be able to nominate at the time of booking that they prefer a no-gap service.

Bulk bill patients will have no “out-of-pocket” costs to pay on the day of their appointment.

Private Appointments

A limited number of private appointments are held for:

- Breast Imaging
- Obstetric Imaging
- Diagnostic Ultrasound appointments
- Diagnostic MRI appointments
- Image guided injections and other procedures

These appointments are held specifically to enable early access, more personal choice for day and time, to obtain a non-standard appointment combination or a longer than standard appointment duration. Patients have the choice at the time of booking if they would like a private appointment.

A gap fee is charged for these appointments.



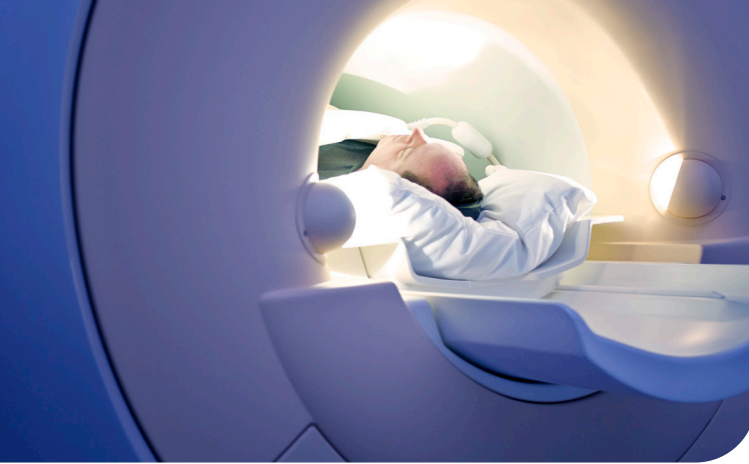
What is a Gap Fee?

A gap fee is the difference between the fee we charge for our private appointments and the Medicare Rebate. The gap fee varies based on the type of examination performed. The gap fee will be communicated at the time of booking.

Complex Investigation or Procedures

A small group of complex investigations or procedures will not be available as a no-gap service. These investigations will be privately billed. The private fees charged are set to reflect the full costs, resources, time and effort required to perform the examination and provide a detailed report.

Discounted gap fees will be available for Pension and Healthcare card holders for some of these procedures (see further details on **Pensioners and Healthcare Card holders** below).



Investigations not covered by Medicare

There are a small number of investigations which are not eligible for Medicare. Private fees apply for these services, and patients are required to cover the entire fee.

How do I pay my account?

No “out-of-pocket” payment is required for bulk billed no-gap services. Payment for private appointments is preferred on the day and we accept EFTPOS, credit card, cash, cheque, moneyorder and BPay payments for your convenience.

Will my Private Health Fund help to cover my accounts?

If you are an Australian citizen with Medicare entitlements, there are currently no private health funds that provide payments for outpatient radiological services. Some international students or residents may have health insurance entitlements that cover these services. Please contact your health fund for more information.

What if I hold a Pension or Health Care Card?

You will be eligible to be bulk billed for routine services. However, for complex procedures or investigations not covered by Medicare a private fee applies. A valid Pension or Health Care Card must be presented for any discount to apply. Please note that we do not accept the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card as a form of concession.

If you have any further queries related to your account, please contact our Accounts Department directly on 9599 3987.

Will I receive a private account if I hold a Veterans’ (DVA) Card?

Gold Card holders - Your account will be sent directly to DVA. White/Orange Card holders - Please contact DVA directly to discuss your eligibility requirements prior to any treatment. Alternatively, please contact our Accounts Department who will assist you with any queries you may have. A valid Veterans’ (DVA) Card must be presented for any discount to apply.

Who is responsible for the account if I am a Worker’s Compensation or Motor Vehicle Accident patient?

The account remains the responsibility of the patient. Perth Radiological Clinic will send the account directly to the relevant employer or insurance company. If payment is not received within 60 days of your visit, the account will be forwarded to you for payment. All relevant information must be provided at the time of your appointment.

Hospital stays or Day Procedure Unit radiology expenses

If your radiology examination occurred or is planned to occur during a hospital stay or in a Day Procedure Unit, please refer to our In-Patient Billing Policy Guide.

Medicare Safety Net

Remember that if you are not in hospital, “out-of pocket” radiology expenses may add to your safety net threshold. Once you reach the Medicare Safety Net threshold, visits to your doctor or having tests could cost you less for the rest of the calendar year because you may be eligible for additional Medicare benefits. All families and couples need to register. Individuals are automatically registered.

For more information on this go to the Medicare Australia website – www.medicareaustralia.gov.au.

Financial Difficulty

Patients who anticipate financial difficulties are asked to discuss their specific situation with staff at the time of booking. Pension or Health Care Card holders will be bulk billed where possible, and payment plans can be arranged.