

PATIENT INFORMATION



N°1 FERTILITY

Rebates for Preimplantation Genetic Testing (PGT)

In May 2021, the Australian Government announced \$95.9 million in funding for Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) services on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS). These Medicare item numbers are expected to take effect from 1 November 2021.

In line with this development, No.1 Fertility, in conjunction with our external genetic testing laboratory CooperGenomics, will be offering rebates on eligible PGT services that can help patients significantly reduce the risk of passing on serious genetic disorders to their children conceived through IVF These rebates do not apply to PGT-A (please see below for further details).

What types of PGT will be eligible?

Patients requiring *some* types of PGT will be eligible for the new Medicare rebates. Currently, there are three main forms of PGT testing (PGT-A, PGT-M, and PGT-SR) performed by our external genetic testing laboratory CooperGenomics. Patients requiring PGT-M and PGT-SR will be eligible for Medicare rebates.

PGT-M (formerly known as PGD), stands for Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Monogenic conditions, and is a targeted form of PGT suitable for individuals and couples who have a known increased reproductive risk of passing on a specific genetic condition e.g. Cystic Fibrosis, Fragile X, and Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA).

PGT-SR (formerly known as PGD), stands for Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Structural Rearrangement, and is a form of PGT which looks for unbalanced chromosome rearrangements in embryo biopsy samples. PGT-SR is available for individuals who carry chromosome rearrangements (alterations in the typical size and arrangement of the chromosomes) and have an increased reproductive risk of contributing unbalanced chromosome rearrangements in an embryo, leading to an incorrect amount of genetic material.

To date, there have been no Medicare rebates for PGT testing in Australia. From 1st November 2021, patients undergoing PGT-M and PGT-SR will have access to testing rebates in line with the MBS.

PGT-A (formerly known as PGS), stands for Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidies, and is the process of screening embryo biopsy samples for chromosome conditions prior to transfer. The most common indications for this type of PGT testing is advanced maternal age, an unexplained recurrent miscarriage history, and/or information seeking to increase the likelihood of achieving a successful pregnancy. At this stage, PGT-A will not qualify for the new Medicare rebates.

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Who qualifies for the rebates?

Eligibility for PGT rebates is restricted to patients who are at risk of passing serious genetic disorders onto their child. This includes patients with a known and hereditary genetic disease or chromosomal rearrangement which is associated with a severe limitation of quality of life despite contemporary management; and can be screened for via PGT-M or PGT-SR. Examples of these conditions include, but are not limited to:

Cystic fibrosis	Haemophilia
Muscular dystrophy	Tay-Sachs
Spinal muscular atrophy	Thalassemia
Neurofibromatosis	Chromosome translocations
Fragile X syndrome	

Standard PGT-A testing without a known and established family history of a genetic disorder or chromosome change **does not** currently qualify for the PGT rebates.

When are these changes expected to take place?

From 1 November 2021.

Questions?

If you have read this information and have questions, please contact the N°1 Fertility team on 9132 9600.

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