



ACC GP Referred MRI

A programme by **WellSouth**

Last updated: 09/02/2024

Intended Purpose

The purpose of the ACC 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 General Practitioners (GPs) and Nurse Practitioners (NPs). This removes the need for patients to visit a specialist before they can access MRI and reduces the time from first assessment to diagnosis.

HealthPathways Link: <https://southern.communityhealthpathways.org/568631.htm>

Restrictions

This service can only be provided by vocationally registered general practitioners, Nurse Practitioners, and doctors working in a general practice setting.

To refer under this services Doctors and NPs must have completed an ACC approved GP MRI training programme from WellSouth or another contracted PHN and be working in a WellSouth affiliated practice.

A GP Registrar can be included as long as they complete the GP MRI training, and work in a practice with an ACC MRI trained GP available to oversee their work.

Patient Eligibility Criteria

- 16 years of age or over.
- 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).
- Has an approved ACC claim no older than 6 months.
- Has been assessed by a trained practitioner as meeting the clinical criteria for the relevant clinical pathway.

Exclusions

- Patients under Accredited Employers are NOT eligible for this programme.

Payment Rates

\$129 +GST ACC GP MRI Post Referral.

- Claimed and paid on completion of the package of care.
- The initial assessment and referral to MRI generates a zero value claim.
- A standard ACC charge and patient co-payment is applied to the initial assessment.
- No co-payment can be charged for the post MRI review.
- Claiming must be completed via the portal at the time of review to ensure payment.

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/NP 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 can 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 (face-to-face, phone, telehealth).

This should occur within 7-14 days of the GP receiving the MRI report (14 days face-to-face, otherwise 7 days).

Treatment, Rehabilitation and follow up care:

Once the GP/NP 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

Claiming is via the WellSouth PHN portal.

ACC GP Referred MRI New Consult
Referral Status: **Approved**
Referral Date: 21 Dec 2023

Service codes for your PMS

Please set these up prior to using the programme.

Code	Amount (incl. GST)	Description
WPGMRI	\$ 148.35	ACC GP MRI Post Referral

If your PMS is aligned to the WellSouth Clinical BCTIs, please contact practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz with your new Account Internal ID.