



**Sullivan
Nicolaides**
PATHOLOGY
Quality is in our DNA

Pathology accounts for hospital patients

Hospital pathology

The pathology tests you have while in hospital may be varied and extensive depending on your illness. They can range from a blood test at the bedside to a complicated microscopic investigation carried out by a pathologist and a scientific team working alongside the surgeon in the theatre.

As a private hospital patient you will be privately billed and, together with Medicare and your private health insurance fund, you are responsible for paying the pathology account.

Medicare refunds

Some tests are eligible for refund payments under the Medicare Benefits Scheme while others are not and have to be paid by you, the patient.

Health insurance refunds

The amounts paid for pathology tests differ from one insurance company to another depending on their arrangements and the particular type of cover you have.

You will get an account for your pathology tests after a hospital stay if any of these are applicable:

- You do not have private health insurance.
- You are insured but your level of cover doesn't cover pathology tests in hospital.
- You are insured with appropriate cover but your health fund does not have a 'no-gaps' agreement with SNP. For a list of private health funds with a 'no-gaps' agreement, please visit www.snp.com.au
- You are insured with a health fund that has a 'no-gaps' agreement and appropriate level of cover but your tests or services are not covered in the Medicare Benefits Schedule.
- You do not have a Medicare card (e.g. you are an overseas visitor).

We set a limit on what you have to pay

If you receive an account from us, you will find that we put a cap on what you have to pay for Medicare eligible services during your hospital stay.

Our fee cap limits your out-of-pocket contribution which is the amount of money you pay above the Medicare and private health fund rebates.

For more details, see section 'Possible additional charges' over.

Possible additional charges

The following services will not be covered by Medicare or your private health fund. All patients will incur additional fees.

Surgical investigations (frozen sections)

A 'frozen section' is when a pathologist, assisted by a scientist or medical technician, works as part of your surgical team during your operation. A frozen section fee applies.

Tests referred to another laboratory

Most of your tests will be performed by the SNP laboratory. However, occasionally tests do need to be referred to another laboratory. These will be billed to you separately by the external laboratory.

Tests not covered by Medicare

When your doctor requests tests that are not eligible for a Medicare rebate, they will also not be eligible for a health fund rebate.

Paying your account

You may pay your account via BPAY®, Post Billpay®, credit card or cheque. Payment options are listed on the back of your account*.

Once you have paid your account, you will be sent a receipt that you can then submit to Medicare and your private health insurer to claim your rebates.

*Some tests require pre-payment.

Medicare rebate eligibility

Your Medicare rebate is the subsidy provided by the Australian Government for tests that are covered in the MBS. Tests that are not covered in the MBS are not eligible for a Medicare rebate and you will need to pay for these tests in full.

For more information about test rebate eligibility, please refer to the Medicare Australia website www.medicareaustralia.gov.au or contact Medicare on 132 011.

You may also contact your private health insurer for more information.

Concessional patients

Concessional patients are defined as pensioners, holders of Health Care cards, Veterans Affairs cards and Commonwealth Seniors cards.

Concessional patients who are not eligible for a health insurance rebate will be billed at the Medicare Schedule fee level for Medicare eligible tests.

Account enquiries

Please contact our Patient Services team on 1300 732 030 or (07) 3377 8565.

Your results

To obtain a copy of your pathology results, please email your request to patientservicesupport@snp.com.au or contact our Patient Services team on 1300 732 030 or (07) 3377 8565.

SULLIVAN NICOLAIDES PTY LTD • ABN 38 078 202 196

A subsidiary of Sonic Healthcare Limited • ABN 24 004 196 909

24 Hurworth Street • Bowen Hills • Qld 4006 • Australia

PO Box 2014 • Fortitude Valley • Qld 4006 • Australia

Tel (07) 3377 8666

www.snp.com.au