

Medicare Benefits Schedule - Note T8.22

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Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

T8.22 Removal of Skin Lesions - (Items 31200 to 31355)

The excision of warts and seborrheic keratoses attracts benefits on an attendance basis with the exceptions outlined in T8.13 of the explanatory notes to this category. Excision of pre-malignant lesions including solar keratoses where clinically indicated are covered by items 31200 to 31240.

The excision of suspicious pigmented lesions for diagnostic purposes attract benefits under items 31205 to 31240. Only if a further more extensive excision is undertaken should the items covering excision of malignancies be used.

Items 31200 and 31245 *do not require* the specimen to be sent for histological confirmation. Items 31205 to 31240 and 31250 *require* that the specimen be sent for histological examination. Items 31255 to 31335 *require* that a specimen has been sent for histological confirmation of malignancy, and any subsequent specimens are sent for histological examination. Confirmation of malignancy *must* be received before itemisation of accounts for Medicare benefits purposes.

Where histological results are available at the time of issuing accounts, the histological diagnosis will decide the appropriate itemisation. If the histological report shows the lesion to be benign, items 31205 to 31240 should be used. Malignant tumours are covered by items 31255 to 31355.

A practitioner providing the first treatment episode for a primary BCC/SCC must use the appropriate item from the following: 31255; 31260; 31265; 31270; 31275; 31280; 31285; or 31290.

Where residual BCC/SCC remains following an initial excision of a primary lesion and the same practitioner is excising that residual BCC/SCC then the appropriate item must be claimed from the following: 31256; 31261; 31266; 31271; 31276; 31281; 31286 or 31291.

Where residual BCC/SCC remains following an initial excision of a primary lesion and a practitioner other than the practitioner that performed the previous excision is excising that residual BCC/SCC then the appropriate item must be claimed from the following: 31257; 31262; 31267; 31272; 31277; 31282; 31287 or 31292.

Where a BCC/SCC was removed and complete excision of the lesion was confirmed, but a BCC/SCC has recurred at the primary site, then the items providing for recurrent BCC/SCC would usually apply.

A practitioner excising a recurrent BCC/SCC of the head or neck and who is a specialist in the practice of his or her specialty or a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided previous treatment (where the lesion was removed by previous surgery, serial cautery and curettage, radiotherapy or two prolonged freeze/thaw cycles of liquid nitrogen therapy) must use item 31295.

A practitioner excising a recurrent BCC/SCC from an area other than the head or neck or who otherwise does not meet the criteria as described under item 31295 must use the appropriate item from the following 31258; 31263; 31268; 31273; 31278; 31283; 31288 or 31293.

For the purpose of these items, the tumour/lesion size should be determined by the macroscopic measurement of the surface diameter of the tumour/lesion or, for elliptical tumours/lesions, by the average surface diameter. The relevant size of the lesion relates to that measured in situ before excision. Suture of wound following surgical excision also includes closure by tissue adhesive resin, clips or similar.

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Definitive surgical excision for items 31300 to 31335 is defined as "surgical removal with an adequate margin and, as a result, no further surgery is indicated at that site of excision.

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It will be necessary for practitioners to retain copies of histological reports.

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Items 31245 and 31250 do not cover shave excision.

Related Items: [31200](#), [31205](#), [31210](#), [31215](#), [31220](#), [31225](#), [31230](#), [31235](#), [31240](#), [31245](#), [31250](#), [31255](#), [31256](#), [31257](#), [31258](#), [31260](#), [31261](#), [31262](#), [31263](#), [31265](#), [31266](#), [31267](#), [31268](#), [31270](#),

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Related Items

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31200](#)

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach to an operation), **removal by surgical excision (other than shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane**, not being a service associated with a service to which item 45200, 45203 or 45206 applies and not being a service to which another item in this Group applies

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

Fee: \$32.70 **Benefit:** 75% = \$24.55 85% = \$27.80

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31205](#)

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **lesion size up to and including 10mm in diameter, removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335, **where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$91.80 **Benefit:** 75% = \$68.85 85% = \$78.05

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31210](#)

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **lesion size more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter, removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335, **where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$118.45 **Benefit:** 75% = \$88.85 85% = \$100.70

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31215](#)

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **lesion size more**

than 20mm in diameter, removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours covered by items 31300 to 31335, **where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$138.10 **Benefit:** 75% = \$103.60 85% = \$117.40

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31220](#)

TUMOURS (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYSTS, ULCERS OR SCARS (other than scars removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **lesion size up to and including 10mm in diameter, removal of 4 to 10 lesions by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335 - **where the specimens excised are sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$206.40 **Benefit:** 75% = \$154.80 85% = \$175.45

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31225](#)

TUMOURS (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYSTS, ULCERS OR SCARS (other than scars removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **lesion size up to and including 10mm in diameter, removal of more than 10 lesions by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from cutaneous or subcutaneous tissue or from mucous membrane, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335 - **where the specimens excised are sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$366.85 **Benefit:** 75% = \$275.15 85% = \$311.85

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31230](#)

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335 - **where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$161.65 **Benefit:** 75% = \$121.25 85% = \$137.45

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31235 

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335, **lesion size up to and including 10mm in diameter - where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$138.10 **Benefit:** 75% = \$103.60 85% = \$117.40

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31240 

TUMOUR (other than viral verrucae [common warts] and seborrheic keratoses), CYST, ULCER OR SCAR (other than a scar removed during the surgical approach at an operation), **removal by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), including excision to establish the diagnosis of tumours** covered by items 31300 to 31335, **lesion size more than 10mm in diameter - where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination** (not being a service to which item 30195 applies)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$161.65 **Benefit:** 75% = \$121.25 85% = \$137.45

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31245 

SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE, extensive excision of, in the treatment of SUPPURATIVE HIDRADENITIS (excision from axilla, groin or natal cleft) or SYCOSIS BARBAE or NUCHAE (excision from face or neck)

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$355.00 **Benefit:** 75% = \$266.25 85% = \$301.75

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31250 

GIANT HAIRY or COMPOUND NAEVUS, excision of an area at least 1 percent of body surface **where the specimen excised is sent for histological confirmation of diagnosis**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$355.00 **Benefit:** 75% = \$266.25 85% = \$301.75

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31255 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal**

from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter - where removal is by therapeutic **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$212.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$159.75 85% = \$181.05

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31256](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$212.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$159.75 85% = \$181.05

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31257](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, where performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$212.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$159.75 85% = \$181.05

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31258](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained - not being a service to which item 31295 applies**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$212.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$159.75 85% = \$181.05

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31260 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, tumour size more than 10mm in diameter** - where removal is by **therapeutic surgical excision (other than shave excision) and suture and where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$303.70 **Benefit:** 75% = \$227.80 85% = \$258.15

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31261 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$303.70 **Benefit:** 75% = \$227.80 85% = \$258.15

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31262 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, where performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$303.70 **Benefit:** 75% = \$227.80 85% = \$258.15

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31263 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is more than 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained - not being a service to which item 31295 applies**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$303.70 **Benefit:** 75% = \$227.80 85% = \$258.15

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31265 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from face, neck, (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by therapeutic surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, *where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$177.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$133.15 85% = \$150.90

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31266 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$177.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$133.15 85% = \$150.90

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31267 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$177.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$133.15 85% = \$150.90

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31268 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained - not being a service to which item 31295 applies*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$177.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$133.15 85% = \$150.90

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31270](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from face, neck, (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), tumour size more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by therapeutic **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$248.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$186.40 85% = \$211.25

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31271](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$248.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$186.40 85% = \$211.25

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31272](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$248.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$186.40 85% = \$211.25

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31273](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained - not being a service to which item 31295 applies**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$248.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$186.40 85% = \$211.25(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31275](#) 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), tumour size more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **therapeutic surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$287.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$215.95 85% = \$244.75(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31276](#) 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$287.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$215.95 85% = \$244.75(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31277](#) 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), where performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$287.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$215.95 85% = \$244.75(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31278](#) 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from face, neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle), whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave**

excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained - not being a service to which item 31295 applies

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$287.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$215.95 85% = \$244.75

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31280](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31255 and 31265, tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by therapeutic **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$149.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$112.50 85% = \$127.50

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31281](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31255 and 31265, where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$150.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$112.90 85% = \$127.95

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31282](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31255 and 31265, performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$150.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$112.90 85% = \$127.95

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31283](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31255 and 31265, whether previous excision was performed**

by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is up to and including 10mm in diameter and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$150.50 **Benefit:** 75% = \$112.90 85% = \$127.95

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31285](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31270, tumour size more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by therapeutic **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$204.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$153.70 85% = \$174.20

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31286](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31270, where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$204.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$153.70 85% = \$174.20

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31287](#)

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31270, performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$204.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$153.70 85% = \$174.20

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31288 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31270, whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$204.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$153.70 85% = \$174.20

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31290 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (including keratocanthoma), **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31275, tumour size more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **therapeutic surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture, where the initial specimen removed is sent for histological examination and malignancy confirmed, and any subsequently excised specimen is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$236.55 **Benefit:** 75% = \$177.45 85% = \$201.10

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31291 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31275, where previous excision was performed by the same practitioner, where the original tumour size was more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$236.55 **Benefit:** 75% = \$177.45 85% = \$201.10

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31292 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RESIDUAL, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31275, performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the original tumour size was more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$236.55 **Benefit:** 75% = \$177.45 85% = \$201.10

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31293 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT, removal of, **from areas of the body not covered by items 31260 and 31275, whether previous excision was performed by the same practitioner OR performed by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, where the tumour size is more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **surgical excision (other than by shave excision) and suture and where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$236.55 **Benefit:** 75% = \$177.45 85% = \$201.10

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31295 

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA OR SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA, RECURRENT (where lesion was treated by previous surgery, serial cautery and curettage, radiotherapy or two prolonged freeze/thaw cycles of liquid nitrogen therapy), **performed by a specialist in the practice of his or her specialty or by a practitioner other than the practitioner who provided the previous treatment, removal from the head or neck (anterior to the sternomastoid muscles), where removal is by surgical excision and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$281.75 **Benefit:** 75% = \$211.35 85% = \$239.50

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31300 **TREATMENT OF MALIGNANT MELANOMA AND LOCALLY AGGRESSIVE SKIN TUMOURS**

Definitive surgical excision for items 31300-31335 is defined as "surgical removal with an adequate margin and as a result, no further surgery is indicated at that site of excision".

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category) and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$307.80 **Benefit:** 75% = \$230.85 85% = \$261.65

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31305 

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE and **removal from nose, eyelid, lip, ear, digit or genitalia, tumour size more than 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category) and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination**

and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$378.60 **Benefit:** 75% = \$283.95 85% = \$321.85

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31310 

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from face, neck (anterior to sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle) tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category) and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$268.10 **Benefit:** 75% = \$201.10 85% = \$227.90

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31315 

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from face, neck (anterior to sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle) tumour size more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category) and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$339.15 **Benefit:** 75% = \$254.40 85% = \$288.30

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31320 

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from face, neck (anterior to sternomastoid muscles) or lower leg (mid calf to ankle) tumour size more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category) and suture, where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$378.60 **Benefit:** 75% = \$283.95 85% = \$321.85

(See para [T8.22](#), [T8.23](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31325 

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN,

MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31300 and 31310 - tumour size up to and including 10mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category)** and suture, *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$260.30 **Benefit:** 75% = \$195.25 85% = \$221.30

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31330](#)

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31305 and 31310 - tumour size more than 10mm and up to and including 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category)** and suture, *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$307.80 **Benefit:** 75% = \$230.85 85% = \$261.65

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31335](#)

MALIGNANT MELANOMA, APPENDAGEAL CARCINOMA, MALIGNANT FIBROUS TUMOUR OF SKIN, MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF SKIN or HUTCHINSON'S MELANOTIC FRECKLE - **removal from areas of the body not covered by items 31305 and 31320 - tumour size more than 20mm in diameter** and where removal is by **definitive surgical excision (as defined above and in the explanatory notes to this category)** and suture, *where the specimen excised is sent for histological examination and confirmation of malignancy has been obtained*

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$355.00 **Benefit:** 75% = \$266.25 85% = \$301.75

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

[31340](#)

NOTE: *Multiple Operation and Multiple Anaesthetic rules apply to this item.*

MUSCLE, BONE OR CARTILAGE, excision of one or more of, where clinically indicated, where the specimen excised is sent for histological confirmation, performed in association with excision of malignant tumour of skin covered by item **31255, 31256, 31257, 31258, 31260, 31261, 31262, 31263, 31265, 31266, 31267, 31268, 31270, 31271, 31272, 31273, 31275, 31276, 31277, 31278, 31280, 31281, 31282, 31283, 31285, 31286, 31287, 31288, 31290, 31291, 31292, 31293, 31295, 31300, 31305, 31310, 31315, 31320, 31325, 31330 or 31335**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

75% of the fee for excision of malignant tumour

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31345 

LIPOMA, removal of by surgical excision or liposuction, where lesion is subcutaneous and **50mm or more in diameter**, or is sub-fascial, **where the specimen is sent for histological confirmation of diagnosis**

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.)

Fee: \$202.95 **Benefit:** 75% = \$152.25 85% = \$172.55

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31350 

BENIGN TUMOUR of SOFT TISSUE, excluding tumours of skin, cartilage, and bone, simple lipomas covered by item 31345 and lipomata, removal of by **surgical excision, where the specimen excised is sent for histological confirmation of diagnosis**, not being a service to which another item in this Group applies

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.) (Assist.)

Fee: \$416.90 **Benefit:** 75% = \$312.70 85% = \$354.40

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Category 3 - THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES

31355 

MALIGNANT TUMOUR of SOFT TISSUE, excluding tumours of skin, cartilage and bone, removal of by **surgical excision**, where **histological proof of malignancy has been obtained**, not being a service to which another item in this Group applies

[Multiple Services Rule](#)

(Anaes.) (Assist.)

Fee: \$687.40 **Benefit:** 75% = \$515.55 85% = \$616.20

(See para [T8.22](#) of explanatory notes to this Category)

Legend

Assist - Addition/Deletion of (Assist.)

Amend - Amended Description

Anaes - Anaesthetic Values Amended

Emsn - EMSN Change

Fee - Fee Amended

Renum - Item Number Change (renumbered)

New - New Item

NewMin - New Item (previous Ministerial Determination)

Qfe - QFE Change