

Understanding the general practice categories factsheet

This table summarises the cover for general practitioners under Avant's Practitioner Indemnity Insurance Policy.

Procedure	GP Non-Procedural	GP Procedural Standard	GP Procedural Non-Standard	Insights
Accident and emergency				
Arterial blood gas estimation	✓	✓	✓	Avant Risk Advisory Service are a team of experienced healthcare professionals with an extensive knowledge of medico-legal risk. They can identify factors which can expose you to medico-legal risk. Topics that can be covered are: effective communication with patients and their family, follow up, recalls and reminders, Medicare billings.
Arterial line insertion	✓	✓	✓	
Blood transfusions	✓	✓	✓	
Central venous line insert	✓	✓	✓	
Chest tube drain insertion	✓	✓	✓	
Drainage of pleural effusion	✓	✓	✓	
Lumbar puncture	✓	✓	✓	
Simple fractures and dislocations – closed deductions not requiring general anaesthesia and include necessary non-continuous IV medications/sedation	✓	✓	✓	
Suprapubic bladder tap	✓	✓	✓	
Anaesthesia, limited to				
Local anaesthesia only including digital block, ring block, ankle block and biers block	✓	✓	✓	
IV injections using narcotics and/or benzodiazepines for minor procedures only	✓	✓	✓	
IV sedations using benzodiazepines, narcotics and anaesthetic agents such as propofol (including IV sedation administered by general practitioners for the purpose of operating lists performed by other practitioners, whether in their rooms or in a hospital or day surgery facility);		✓	✓	
Regional anaesthesia – minor regional anaesthesia only (including axillary nerve blocks but excluding spinal or extradural nerve blocks)		✓	✓	
Skin cancer medicine				
Skin checks	✓	✓	✓	Skin cancer related claims make up a larger share of both civil and disciplinary claims for GP Proceduralist. Procedural/surgical or diagnosis issues are most common allegations in the skin cancer related claims.
Minor excisions (confined by elliptical and able to achieve primary wound closure)	✓	✓	✓	
Works in dedicated skin cancer clinic and/or specialises in skin cancer medicine		✓	✓	

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Treatments and procedures				
Acupuncture including laser acupuncture	✓	✓	✓	
Allergy testing – desensitisation	✓	✓	✓	
Antenatal and postnatal care (excludes GPs involved in the induction of labour or delivery of the infant – General Practice Procedural with Obstetrics)	✓	✓	✓	
Shared antenatal care with no involvement in the induction or management of labour or delivery of the infant except in an emergency	✓	✓	✓	
Implanon (under local anaesthetic)	✓	✓	✓	
IUCD including Mirena – insertion and removal	✓	✓	✓	
Medical termination of pregnancy is covered provided you have completed approved training	✓	✓	✓	
Pap smears tests	✓	✓	✓	
Compartment pressure testing	✓	✓	✓	
Palliative care	✓	✓	✓	
Aged care healthcare	✓	✓	✓	
Defence force healthcare	✓	✓	✓	
IV therapy – insertion of intravenous lines, including central lines and management of IV therapy, venepuncture (excluding continuous sedation)	✓	✓	✓	
Medico-legal reporting	✓	✓	✓	
Pre employment check	✓	✓	✓	
Post mortems	✓	✓	✓	
Removal of superficial foreign bodies	✓	✓	✓	
Sebaceous cyst or lipoma removal	✓	✓	✓	
TENS treatments	✓	✓	✓	
X-Rays – simple X-Rays, including the administration of contrast if indicated and/or after discussion with a radiologist	✓	✓	✓	
Surgical assistance where you are not the primary or supervising surgeon, in addition to your General Practice work	✓	✓	✓	

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Simple minor cosmetics procedures (where a GP engaging in consultative family medicine for a wide range of medically-incidated conditions)				
Botulinum toxin injections e.g. Botox;	✓	✓	✓	
Dermal rolling, skin needling and Roll CIT;	✓	✓	✓	
Fruit acid peels (superficial only);	✓	✓	✓	
Microdermabrasion;	✓	✓	✓	
Non-permanent reversible filler injections (where you have, and are able to use, the reversing agent) e.g. Juvederm	✓	✓	✓	Dermal fillers that can be broken down by a reversal agent is deemed to be lower risk compared to non reversible fillers. In cases where dermal fillers have produced an undesired or harmful result, it can be reversed immediately.
Sclerotherapy and microsclerotherapy (excluding applications to the face);	✓	✓	✓	
Sclerotherapy and microsclerotherapy (including application to the face);		✓	✓	
Intense pulse light (IPL) (including photo rejuvenation using non-ablative lasers only);	✓	✓	✓	Non-ablative laser treatments performed on the outer layer are deemed to be low risk.
Cosmetics procedures				
Dermal fillers				Elective minor cosmetic procedures have an elevated risk of claims due to patient expectations and out-of-pocket costs. Avant Risk Advisory Service can assist doctors offering minor cosmetic procedures, to manage their medico-legal risk, on the topics of consent, medical record and documentation, post-operative care, advertising and social media. This may also include knowledge of legislation requirements – Cosmetic Guidelines and Good Medical Practice code of conduct for medical practitioners.
Endovenous laser treatment		✓	✓	
Chemical peels				
Dermabrasion				
Facial thread lifts				
Fat injections (related to the facial areas only and not involving any major fat grafts from the body or injections into breasts)				
Hair transplants using Follicular Unit Extraction (FUE)				
Laser tattoo removal				
Laser therapy and laser resurfacing (ablative lasers)				
Lipo-dissolving treatments				
Scalp reductions (simple central scalp reductions only)				