

Acute In-patient Care of the Older Person

Ground Rules

1. In-Patient Care of the Older Person Consultation

A major in patient care of the older person medical consultation arising from the referral of a patient by the admitting consultant to a consultant geriatric medicine physician registered with Irish Life Health for the purpose of managing and directing a complex case.

The major consultation fee is only payable for the initial consultation with a new patient and all subsequent consultations for in-patient claims are payable at the ordinary consultation rates.

This major consultation includes:

- > A full history and medical examination of all systems
- > Evaluation of appropriate diagnostic tests
- > Formal symptom assessment
- > Administration and interpretation of a validated Quality of Life assessment
- > Providing an opinion and/ or diagnosis and making an appropriate record of this

The duration of this consultation must be for a minimum of 50 minutes and the reason stated with claim submitted.

The major consultation fee is expected to include:

- > Providing an opinion/ diagnosis and making an appropriate record of this
- > The duration for this consultation must be for a minimum of 30 minutes

Code	Description
8692	Consultant Geriatrician in-patient consultation

Note:

The benefit for in patient consultation does not include any form of therapy or continued involvement with the patient. The benefit is paid once only, irrespective of the number of examinations or visits involved in forming an opinion.

Where a procedure listed in the Schedule of Benefits for Professional Fees is performed at the time of a consultation then only the procedure benefit is payable i.e. the major consultation fee is not paid.

This benefit is not payable where, as a matter of policy, all patients are routinely examined by a second doctor.

The routine screening of patients pre-operatively, regardless of health status, is included in the benefit paid to the admitting consultant. Consultation benefits are therefore not payable in these instances.

2. Conditions of payment

The claiming of benefit will continue on the basis of a fully completed Irish Life Health claim form from the primary treating consultant.