



Our Ref : KKM.87/A9/7/34 Jld 5(3)  
Date : 10 January 2023

## **CLARIFICATION FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI) OR POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY (PET SCAN) UNDER GENERAL ANAESTHESIA (GA)**

With kind reference to the above matter and your letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 regarding professional fee for MRI or PET Scan procedures performed under GA.

2. We understand that there is no specific professional fee stipulated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Schedule or in the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) Schedule of Fee 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, for an anaesthetist when MRI and PET Scan procedures are performed under GA for high risk patients in MRI or PET scan suites. Currently the anaesthetists are using the following note in the 13<sup>th</sup> Schedule for these procedures:

*'In cases where no fee is stipulated for the anaesthetist and anaesthetist is deemed necessary, a fee not exceeding 50% of the surgical procedure fee or a minimum of RM265 or whichever is higher may be charged by the anaesthetist'*

3. However, the Malaysian Society of Anaesthesiologists (MSA) / College of Anaesthesiologist (CoA) professional have explained that the fee charged as mentioned above is not appropriate with the risk of administering GA for high risk patients specifically in MRI or PET Scan suites. Hence, based on the discussion with MSA / CoA and taking into consideration the complexity and risk taken in performing these procedures for high risk patients in MRI or PET scan suites, we would like to make the following recommendation:

- 3.1 Up to 1 hour of time spent for anaesthesia, the maximum chargeable fee is RM355;
- 3.2 1 hour up to 2 hours, the maximum chargeable fee is RM480; and
- 3.3 2 hours and above, the maximum chargeable fee is RM580.



4. The high risk patients that may require GA for MRI or PET scan are as the following:

- 4.1 American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) category 3 or 4 patients with significant medical problems;
- 4.2 Paediatrics patients;
- 4.3 ASA category 2 patients with well controlled medical problems but with potential airways issues; and
- 4.4 It may include claustrophobic patients or patients who generally do not tolerate mild and moderate sedation.

5. We would like to advise to all medical practitioners to strictly abide to the criteria mentioned above for MRI or PET Scan procedures performed under GA.

Thank you.

***"BERKHIDMAT UNTUK NEGARA"***

Yours sincerely,



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Hs/mcofee/jan/2023

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