Dear Doctor

GEMS TANZANITE ONE AND BERYL (T1B) FAMILY PRACTITIONER (FP) NETWORK: IMPORTANT BENEFIT ENHANCEMENTS FOR 2026

GEMS considers the Family Practitioner (FP) to be at the heart of the healthcare process and appreciates the intensive work done by FPs to ensure that our more than 2.4 million beneficiaries receive the quality healthcare they require.

The purpose of this communication is to update you on the following:

1. FP and Family Physician tariff increases
2. Tanzanite one (T1) Family Practitioner Consultations
3. T1 In-Hospital Benefit Restructuring
4. New Formularies for Acute Medication, Pathology and Radiology for T1 Option
5. Advanced Radiology Benefits
6. Male Circumcision
7. Scope Co-payment
8. Outpatient Intravenous (IV) Therapy
9. GEMS Hospital Admission
10. Enhanced GEMS Practitioner Application & Portal

1. FP and Family Physician Tariff increases for 2026

The following tariff increases are applicable to T1B FPs and Family Physicians from 01 January 2026. Please ensure that these rates are correctly loaded on your practice management software.

		Network Family Practitioner & Family Physician	Non-Network Family Practitioner & Family Physician
Professional Fees		3.10%	2.85%
Tanzanite One & Beryl Option		**Network Rates**	
		Dispensing doctor tariff	**Non-dispensing doctor tariff**
Family Practitioner & Family Physician	Level 1	R 525.10	R 408.50
	Level 2	R 506.20	R 408.50
	Level 3	R 462.40	R 380.00

Important reminder for Dispensing T1B FPs and Family Physicians:

Dispensing Network FPs and Family Physicians can write a prescription in instances where they do not have the relevant medicines in stock. The medicines will have to be dispensed by a Network pharmacy and will be limited to three (3) scripts of up to a maximum of R 253.00 each per beneficiary per annum.

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2. T1 Family Practitioner Consultations

From 01 January 2026 on T1 option, the out-of-hospital FP and nurse consultations will be subject to pre-authorisation from the ninth (9th) FP/ Nursing Practitioner and subsequent consultations per beneficiary per annum. Consultations that are not pre-authorised after the eighth (8th) consultation will not be covered. Members are required to consult their nominated FP within the GEMS FP Network.

3. T1 In-Hospital Benefit Restructuring

Effective 01 January 2026, in-hospital benefits on T1 option will be subject to Prescribed Minimum Benefit (PMB) **conditions only** and subject to PMB Legislation. Any hospital admissions or services that do not meet the PMB criteria will not be funded. Funding is subject to the use of a Designated Service Provider (DSP).

4. New Formularies for Acute Medication, Pathology and Radiology For T1 Option

New formularies will be introduced for Acute Medication, Pathology and Radiology services, to ensure appropriate access to care and alignment with Clinical Guidelines.

5. Advanced Radiology Benefits

Advanced Radiology services will be covered both in-hospital and out-of-hospital, subject to pre-authorisation. In-hospital scans are limited to PMBs while out-of-hospital scans are subject to a benefit limit. Each member is entitled to one (1) CT or MRI scan per annum.

6. Male Circumcision

Male circumcision procedure will be covered only in an out-of-hospital setting, unless there is a clinical indication that require hospital-based care. All procedures in/ out of hospital will require pre-authorisation and will be subject to clinical review.

7. Scope Co-Payment

A R,1000 co-payment per scope will apply on all non-PMB and elective scopes that are performed in-hospital. If a member needs to undergo two (2) or more scopes, a R1,000 co-payment will apply for each scope. This excludes T1 benefit option.

8. Outpatient Intravenous (IV) Therapy

This benefit includes the IV therapy that is provided in outpatient setting, including home-based care. This is subject to pre-authorisation and Managed Care Protocols, under the Alternative to Hospital benefit.

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9. GEMS Hospital Admission

Members on the Tanzanite One, Ruby and Emerald Value options must make use of the GEMS Hospital Network for hospital admission. Voluntary use of a non-network hospital will result in a co-payment of **R15 000**. To view and download the GEMS Hospital Network List, please access the GEMS website.

To assist your patient on the Tanzanite One option to avoid non-network co-payment, please refer them to a specialist based at a network hospital.

10. Enhanced GEMS Practitioner Application & Portal

The GEMS Practitioner Portal and Mobile Application have been enhanced consistently to ensure that these platforms are much more user-friendly and provide a more personalised and improved functionality. Registration details and links are available on the GEMS website (www.gems.gov.za).

Should you need any assistance during the registration process, you can contact the GEMS Provider Online Support Desk via email on ictservicedesk@gems.gov.za.

More GEMS information at your fingertips

Our website offers a wealth of information to members and providers alike. Please visit www.gems.gov.za for Provider Guides, Network Lists, ICD-10 Codes, Formulary Lists, Tariff Files, Healthcare Programmes and more. The **GEMS Practitioner Portal** can be accessed at hcp.gems.gov.za, and the **GEMS Practitioner App** downloaded from Google Play or the App Store.

Want to get in touch with GEMS?

If you have any queries or wish to participate in the GEMS Specialist Network, please

- Call us on 0860 436 777, weekdays between 08:00 and 17:00; Saturdays between 08:00 and 12:00, OR
- Send us an email on networkscontracting@gems.gov.za

11. 2026 Healthcare Provider Engagement Events

In recognition of the pivotal role healthcare professionals play in the success of the Scheme, GEMS aims at cultivating and fortifying our relationship with healthcare professionals through strategic and meaningful dialogues.

GEMS is delighted to inform healthcare professionals about the 2026 GEMS Healthcare Provider Summits listed below:

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Date	Province
28 March 2026	Western Cape
16 May 2026	Limpopo
25 July 2026	Eastern Cape
19 September 2026	Free State

Additional details regarding these events will be shared with you through formal invitations in due course.

Also, in 2026 there will be Practice Managers' Webinars, kindly be on the lookout for communication details for your province.

Kind regards,

GEMS Network Management

Disclaimer:

Every effort has been made to ensure that all information provided to you is factual and accurate. However, in the event of a dispute, the Scheme Rules shall apply. You can view the Scheme Rules on our website at www.gems.gov.za. The information provided on this correspondence is for information purposes only and cannot replace medical advice from your professional healthcare provider. We are committed to protecting your personal data. Your right to privacy and security is very important to us. The Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) and its contracted Service Provider Network (SPN) treat personal information as private and confidential. We collect personal information for the purposes set out in the Scheme's Registered Rules or otherwise communicated to you and we use your information for a number of different purposes, for example to provide our services to members and others and to meet our legal and regulatory obligations. For more detailed information on how and why we use your information, including the rights in relation to your personal data, and our legal grounds for using it, please view the GEMS Protection of Personal Information Policy and Promotion of Access to Information Manual on our website.

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