

## Eligibility criteria for transcatheter aortic valve implantation or replacement

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of a transcatheter aortic valve implantation or replacement (TAVI/TAVR) under a member's policy when **all** the following criteria are met for that member as reviewed and agreed by the Heart Team of the applicable angiography facility (Heart Team includes a cardiothoracic surgeon).

1. The patient has symptomatic severe calcific aortic stenosis or deteriorated surgical tissue aortic valve.
2. The patient must have a life expectancy of more than 2 years.
3. The patient is at intermediate or higher risk which is defined as either:
  - an STS-PROM score of 4% or more
  - OR**
  - an STS-PROM score of at least 3% and has increased risk (which approximates to an STS- PROM score of 4% or more) due to:
    - age - 75yrs+
    - heart failure
    - lung function - FEV1 <1000ml
    - 5-metre gait speed  $\geq$  6 seconds
    - severe diastolic dysfunction
    - liver disease
    - pulmonary hypertension  $\geq$  60mm Hg
    - frailty
    - previous open heart surgery
4. The patient is technically suitable for TAVI. The patient must meet 1.; 2. and 3. above as agreed by the Heart Team **prior** to being referred for a pre TAVI CT scan to assess if technically suitable.

**STS- PROM** is the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Predicted Risk of Mortality risk calculator.