

# General Practice Readiness Checklist for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

- 1. Create a welcoming environment**
  - Artwork/signage/appropriate posters
  - Display Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander flags
  - Acknowledgement of Traditional Owner plaque
  - Provide culturally appropriate health resources and reading materials e.g. Koori Mail newspaper
- 2. Prepare practice systems** such as recall reminders for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and update Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status for all registered clients.
- 3. Establish a standard process for asking all patients about their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status**, including patient family members. Further support and guidance can be found at:
  - Inner North West Primary Care Partnership 2014, 'The Asking the Question Training Package' [www.inwpcp.org.au/toolkit-main-page/appropriately-identifying-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-service-users/](http://www.inwpcp.org.au/toolkit-main-page/appropriately-identifying-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-service-users/)
  - North East Primary Care Partnership and Victorian Aboriginal Health Services (VAHS) 2013, 'Ask the Question' [www.nepcp.org.au/have-you-asked-question-are-you-aboriginal-or-torres-strait-islander-origin-resource-kit-mouse-mat-a](http://www.nepcp.org.au/have-you-asked-question-are-you-aboriginal-or-torres-strait-islander-origin-resource-kit-mouse-mat-a)
- 4. Complete a Health Assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People (MBS Item 715)** to assess patient for chronic disease and risk factors.
- 5. Register your practice with Medicare Australia for the Practice Incentives Program-Indigenous Health Incentive (PIP-IHI)** - At least two members (one must be a GP) must undertake **cultural awareness training** as required within one year of registration for the PIP IHI.
- 6. Seek patient consent and register patient for PIP-IHI and/or PBS Co-payment measure.** Offer assistance to complete registration forms where appropriate.
- 7. Annotate PBS prescriptions** with Closing the Gap (CTG) for registered patients for access to more affordable medicines.
- 8. Develop a care plan** for your patient if they have a chronic disease. Refer to **specialists and allied health providers** if appropriate.
- 9. Refer eligible patients to the Care Coordination and Supplementary Services (CCSS)** program or to **Aboriginal Outreach Worker** services if appropriate.
- 10. Re-register patient annually** for PIP-IHI.