

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:
 - Heart Foundation 2019, '[Asking the Question of Origin e-learning module](#)'.
 - Inner North West Primary Care Partnership 2014, '[The Asking the Question Training Package](#)'
 - North East Primary Care Partnership and Victorian Aboriginal Health Services (VAHS) 2013, '[Ask the Question](#)'
- 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.** Assist with the completion of the 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 Integrated Team Care (ITC) program** or to **Aboriginal Outreach Worker** services if appropriate.
- 10. Re-register patient annually** for PIP-IHI.