

Closing the Gap –Indigenous Chronic Disease Information for General Practice

What is “Closing the Gap– Indigenous Chronic Disease” ?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience a burden of disease two-and-a-half times that of other Australians. A large part of the burden of disease is due to chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, chronic respiratory disease and chronic kidney disease. This can be reduced by earlier identification, and management of risk factors and the disease itself.

[The Indigenous Chronic Disease Practice Package](#) including the [practice incentive \(PIP\)](#) aims to achieve this reduction by providing support to the health sector and better access to health care by Indigenous Australians.

The Division will support you with;

- Meeting the requirements of and **registering for the Indigenous Health-PIP**
- **Identifying Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients** within the practice e.g. searching the database, establishing recall and reminder systems, identifying suitable health assessment templates
- Facilitating **access to Specialists and Allied Health care services**
- Facilitating **access to PBS co-payments** measure for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients who have chronic disease or are at risk of developing one
- Facilitating **communication with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community** where required.
- [Online Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness Training for GPs and staff](#)
- [Application forms and information regarding the new PIP and PBS co-payments](#)

Who can I contact with questions?

For more information contact Shirley Palmer, on **4721 1150**.