

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health: PIP incentives for General Practice

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the worst health outcomes of any cultural group in Australia, experiencing lower rates of access to primary health care and higher rates of hospitalisation than non-Indigenous Australians.

The **PIP Indigenous Health Incentive** aims to support general practices and Indigenous health services to provide better health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, including best practice management of chronic disease.

To join this incentive, practices will need to be participating in the Practice Incentive Program will be required to:

- seek consent to register their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients who have, or are at risk of, chronic disease with Medicare Australia.
- establish a mechanism to ensure Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients aged 15 years and over with a chronic disease are followed up to ensure they return for ongoing care;
- undertake cultural awareness training within 12 months of joining the incentive
- annotate Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescriptions for eligible Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients.

What are the benefits for General Practice?

- **Sign on payment** – \$1000 per practice. A once-off sign-on payment.
- **Annual patient registration payment** – \$250 per eligible patient per year.
- **Outcomes payment** – up to \$250
- **10 follow up services** – with practice nurses (MBS item 10987)

What are the benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people?

- Better management of their chronic disease and overall health in a culturally safe environment.
- Cheaper medicines upon registration with the PBS Co-payment scheme. Concessional price (under \$6) or free if patient has a concession card.

www.mnbml.com.au

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How can the Medicare Local help?

1. Book a visit with our **Close the Gap Coordinator** who can assist you with:
 - registering for PIP IHI
 - resources to consent and register patients
 - undertaking cultural awareness training
 - PBS Co-payment scheme.

2. Book a visit with one of our **Chronic Disease Management and Prevention Coordinators** for help with:
 - establishing systems to help screen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for chronic health conditions
 - templates and resources to assist with managing chronic disease.
 - MBS billing.

3. Book a visit with one of our **Public Health and Nursing Coordinators** for information about:
 - additional vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other schedule updates
 - vaccine and cold chain management.

4. Book a visit with our **Accreditation and Practice Management Coordinator** to meet 4th edition Standards for General Practices in:
 - recording Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status
 - clinical guidelines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Indigenous Health PIP or how the Medicare Local can support you with your Indigenous health activities, please complete the section below and fax to 07 3630 7333 or phone us – 07 3630 7300.

Practice Contact name

Ph..... Email

Please contact me regarding:

- I am interested in the Indigenous Health PIP and would like more information
- General support with Indigenous health activities
- Information about vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Our practice is registered with the Indigenous Health PIP and would like some advice/assistance with:

- Consent and registration issues for the PIP and/or PBS Co-Payment
- Systems, templates and resources to assist with managing chronic disease
- Cultural awareness training

Get in touch

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