

# PBS Co-payment Measure

This assists Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people to pay for their medications to manage their chronic disease.



\* Only medicines listed on the PBS are included in the Measure

Hospital prescriptions are NOT included in the Measure

# For more information

Take this brochure to your doctor and ask how Closing the Gap can help your health.

It is important to check with your doctor that you are recorded as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. This must be recorded for you to be eligible for the Indigenous Health Incentives.

## Closing the Gap Eastern Melbourne PHN

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[www.emphn.org.au](http://www.emphn.org.au)

Eastern Melbourne PHN would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people and other peoples of the Kulin nation as the traditional owners of the land on which our work in the community takes place. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

**phn**  
EASTERN MELBOURNE

An Australian Government Initiative

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Artwork used in this picture is by Reanna Bono of Yakuwa Graphic Design

# Do you identify?

As Aboriginal and/or  
Torres Strait Islander



## Why identify?

By identifying yourself as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander to your health professionals, you can access:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health assessments
- free or cheaper medications
- immunisations
- additional referrals to allied health services for patients with chronic disease
- a culturally sensitive GP service

## What is chronic disease?

A chronic disease is a medical condition you have for six months or longer.

Some chronic diseases include:

- cancer
- diabetes
- heart disease
- kidney disease
- lung disease (eg. asthma)

## What is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Assessment?

An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Assessment (MBS 715) is a full health check done by your doctor. This includes questions about your physical, emotional and social wellbeing.

You are eligible for a free health check (MBS 715) every 12 months at any age.

Make sure you book a long consultation with your doctor when going for your health check.

## Indigenous health incentives

There are two programs to assist Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people in the management of their health.

### 1. Practice Incentive Program (PIP)

Your doctor can help you manage your chronic disease and make sure you get the right care you need

### 2. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Co-payment Measure

Gives you access to free or cheaper medications

## Eligibility

To be eligible for these programs you need to:

- identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- have, or are likely to develop, a chronic disease
- hold a current Medicare card
- be 15 years or over
- register and provide consent at your usual doctor's practice

