

## Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

If so, take this brochure with you to NCACCH to get more information to see if you are eligible for the program.

## What is a Closing the Gap Indigenous Outreach Worker?

A Closing the Gap Outreach Worker assists the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community to access doctors, specialist and other health services, including:

- Attending appointments to support you
- Help with communication between you and your doctor
- One on one support
- Assist with access to cheaper or no cost medications
- Attending follow up appointments
- Helping your doctor and/or reception staff understand your needs
- Helping your doctor and/or reception staff provide a culturally appropriate environment

**Contact NCACCH for further enquiries**

*NCACCH has a vision to "Close the Gap" in the health status of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people through a holistic approach to client health and wellbeing.*



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Hours:

Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 5.00pm

Fri 8.30am - 3.00pm

*Indigenous Outreach Worker*

*funded by*

**phn**  
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND,  
WIDE BAY, SUNSHINE COAST

An Australian Government Initiative



# Indigenous Outreach Worker



**NCACCH**

North Coast Aboriginal Corporation  
for Community Health

**ihca**  
supporting excellence  
**CERTIFICATION**

AS/NZS ISO 9001:2008  
QUALITY CERTIFIED  
ORGANISATION





## What is Closing the Gap?

Closing the Gap is a **two part program** the Commonwealth Government has started, to close the life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous people. It also assists in better health management, especially chronic disease.

### What are the benefits?

Registering with Closing the Gap can assist with:

- No cost or cheaper medicine
- Health support with your Doctor
- Support with better health management
- Assistance to a healthier lifestyle

### Am I eligible for Closing the Gap?

1. I am Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
2. I have had or need to have a full health check
3. I have or am at risk of a chronic condition

### For more information on Closing the Gap registration:

Contact the NCACCH Closing the Gap Indigenous Outreach Worker

### How do I register?

See your doctor to complete a Medicare Patient Registration and Consent Form



## Part one

### PBS Co-Payment Measure Scheme

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Co-Payment Measure will give you access to no cost or cheaper medicines.

In order to receive cost reduced medication, you must qualify with the following;

- Identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Have a current Medicare Card
- Have an existing chronic disease/s or **be at risk** of a chronic disease
- Complete a Medicare Patient Registration and Consent form at your usual medical centre **(this is a one off registration)**

## Part two

### PIP Indigenous Health Incentive

Practice Incentive Program (PIP) Indigenous Health Incentive is a program for your doctor to help you manage your chronic disease/s and to make sure you get access to the care you need.

You can be part of the PIP Indigenous Health Incentive program if you:

- Identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Are aged 15 years and over
- Have an existing chronic disease/s
- Have a current Medicare Card
- Complete a Medicare Patient Registration and Consent form at your usual medical centre **(this is a yearly registration)**



## What is a chronic condition?

A chronic condition is a medical condition that you have had or likely to have for six months or longer.

May include:

- Heart disease
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Respiratory eg chronic asthma, emphysema
- Chronic renal conditions
- Sleep apnoea conditions
- Mental Health

## Do you know what an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health check is?

A health check is when your Doctor and/or Nurse do an overall check of your well-being. This also includes your social and emotional well-being.

They also consider what prevention activities or other assistance you might need to stop you getting sick or to improve your health.

Every 9 to 12 months your Doctor can complete a health check. It's free and only takes 45minutes to an hour.

