

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients with or at risk of diabetes

Focus area

Optimising care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients with or at risk of diabetes

Why improve this data set?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients are 3 times more likely to have diabetes than non-Aboriginal Australians.

Type 2 diabetes is a direct or indirect cause for 20% of Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander peoples deaths*

**Diabetes: The silent pandemic and its impact on Australia 2012.*

Quality improvement ideas

Steps:

- Pen CS search using appropriate recipe to find those who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Cultural awareness and education for the whole practice and ensure this is ongoing (annual)
- Educate the team where the resources are available, the closing the gap goals and the local statistics for that demographic
- Ask every patient at every point of care if they wish to identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Request HbA1c and any other relevant missing data at scheduled and opportunistic appointments
- Patient education and referrals where appropriate
- Champion protected time to set up continuing recall system agreed with the team.

Advice and treatment options

Practice Resources:

- Primary Health Network **Aboriginal Health Access Team**
- [RACGP Cultural Awareness training](#) (to meet accreditation standards)
- [HealthPathways Hunter New England](#)
- [Health Pathways Central Coast](#)
- [PenCS](#)
- [TopBar](#)

Patient Resources

- National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) [Indigenous factsheet](#)
- [Integrated Care Team \(ITC\)](#)
- [Patient Info Hunter New England](#)
- [Patient Info Central Coast](#)