

**Good practice table: Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare**



**Step 3: Offer the patient an MBS item 715 health check and make arrangements for follow-up**

# Good practice example Yes No Activity needed By whom? By when? Accreditation – Standards (5th edn)\*

**First steps**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| All members of the practice team understand the intention and requirements of the MBS item 715 health check, including what constitutes a quality health check |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C3.2, C4.1, C5.1, C8.1, QI1.3 |
| Culturally appropriate information is provided to patients about the MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | C1.3, C2.1, C2.3, C4.1, C1.4c |
| For new patients, time is taken to build rapport and  trust before offering an MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | GP1.1 |
| Practice team completes a high-quality MBS item 715 health check, as per current guidelines (such as the NACCHO/RACGP [*National guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*](http://www.racgp.org.au/national-guide) or the [*CARPA standard treatment manual*](https://www.crh.org.au/the-manuals/carpa-standard-treatment-manual-7th-edition) 2019) |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C3.2, C5.1, C5.2, QI1.3, GP3.1 |
| The practice team agrees on who in the team will complete each part of the MBS item 715 health check (eg practice nurse, Aboriginal health worker/ practitioner, GP) |  |  |  |  |  | C3.2, C3.4, C5.2, C5.3, GP2.3 |

[**racgp.org.au**](https://www.racgp.org.au/home)

**Step 3**

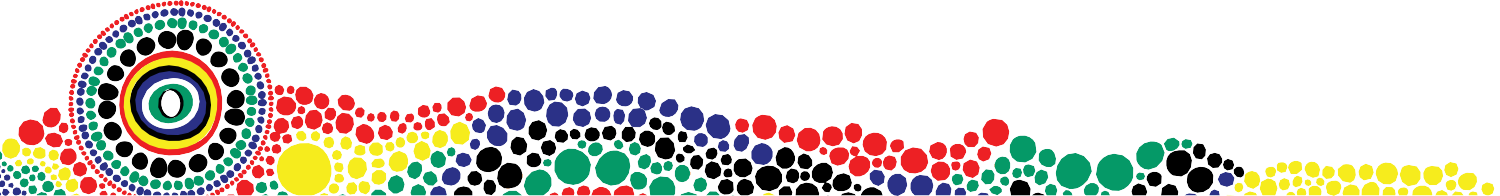
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| **First steps** | | | | | | |
| GPs are available to review, complete and sign off  the MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C2.3, C3.2, GP2.2 |
| Appointments are long enough to complete a comprehensive MBS item 715 health check (30–60 minutes, including at least 15 minutes with GP) |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C2.3, C5.2, C8.1, GP1.1 |
| Practice systems support effective recalls and reminders for follow-up after an MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | GP1.1, GP2.1, GP2.2 |
| Practice team knows referral options for addressing follow-up activities, including those related to clinical pathways and to social and support services (eg housing, legal, family support), and these are clearly documented, updated regularly and easy to find in practice systems |  |  |  |  |  | C1.3, C1.5, C2.1, C5.2,  GP2.1, GP2.2, GP2.3, GP 2.4 |

**Good practice**

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| Patient priorities and goals inform the MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C4.1, C5.3, C7.1, QI1.2, QI1.3, C4.1 |
| A plan is made based on health needs and patient priorities and goals identified during the MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | C1.3, C1.5, C2.1,  GP2.1, GP2.2, GP2.3, GP 2.4 |
| Referral pathways for supporting health needs following an MBS item 715 health check are agreed with the patient |  |  |  |  |  | C5.3, C7.1, GP2.1, GP2.2, GP2.3, GP 2.4 |

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**Step 3**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Good practice** | | | | | | |
| Practice recall and reminder systems are used effectively to support follow-up of health needs identified in the MBS item 715 health check |  |  |  |  |  | C3.2a, C3.4c, C6.2, GP2.2 |
| Referral pathways are clearly documented, updated  regularly and easy to find in practice systems |  |  |  |  |  | C2.1, C5.3, GP1.1, GP2.3, GP2.4 |

**Best practice**

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| The plan for healthcare following an MBS item 715 health check is developed in partnership with the patient |  |  |  |  |  | C1.3, C1.5, QI1.2 |
| Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clinicians are involved in providing elements of the MBS item 715 health check (eg Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers/practitioners, nurses, GPs) |  |  |  |  |  | GP2.1, C2.1, C5.2 |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients are asked about their experience of the MBS item 715 health check – patient-reported experience measures (PREMS) |  |  |  |  |  | QI1.2 |

Note – Standards (5th edn): C = Core module, GP = General Practice module, QI = Quality Improvement module

*GP, general practitioner; MBS, Medicare Benefits Schedule; PREMS, patient-reported experience measures*

\*The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Standards for general practices. 5th edn. East Melbourne, Vic: RACGP, 2017. Available at [www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/practice-standards/standards-](http://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/practice-standards/standards-5th-edition) [5th-edition](http://www.racgp.org.au/running-a-practice/practice-standards/standards-5th-edition) [Accessed 4 September 2019].

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