Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare

1. Prepare and register for PIP
   - Register for the Indigenous Health PIP Incentive
   - Staff complete accredited cultural awareness training
   - Create a welcoming practice environment

2. Identify your Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients
   Asking the question can cause discomfort in practice staff; evidence shows that all patients are comfortable when asked if the reasons can be explained.
   If patients choose to identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, they will do so when prompted.
   More details on identification can be found here: www.racgp.org.au/yourracgp/faculties/aboriginal/guides/identification/

3. Perform the health assessment (MBS Item 715)
   Opens access to an additional 5 allied health visits
   Conducting a health assessment with a patient is an excellent opportunity to build rapport, trust and to develop and enhance an ongoing relationship. As well as identifying physical health problems, discussing psychological and social functions is an excellent approach to effective two-way communication with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

4. Register patients with, or at risk of, a chronic disease for the CTG PBS co-payment
   Once your practice is registered for the Indigenous PIP (Step 1), you are able to register patients for the CTG – PBS co-payment.
   Use the same form as the PIP patient registration.
   www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/forms/ip017

5. Use appropriate clinical guidelines, and programs from the RACGP, Medicare and PHNs to enhance access and quality of care
   The RACGP National Guide to a preventative health assessment outlines the activities that are effective for preventive health.
   Please visit the Indigenous Health Service eLearning program for more advice.