

Abstract Submission – 1.5 hour oral session

Title

The Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare

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Background

Recognising a need for more practical information for general practitioners (GPs) about primary healthcare initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, RACGP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health launched a suite of resources, the [Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare](#) (*Five steps*) in July 2017.

Aims

Five steps represents a pathway towards better healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The resources build on a foundation of cultural awareness in the practice environment, to support GPs and practice teams to deliver quality and culturally responsive primary healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

Method

Initiated by the RACGP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Board in response to data, which show the MBS 715 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health assessment and other relevant measures are not being accessed in line with need, the *Five steps* resources were developed to promote key programs and funding available to support care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients. Supplementary resources will be developed throughout 2018 to support GPs to implement the five steps in a way that achieves the best outcomes for practices and patients.

Results

The *Five steps* resources are an easy and accessible set of tools, which provide an important starting point and guide for GPs and practice staff to better deliver quality and culturally responsive healthcare for their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients. Reflections on implementation will demonstrate the value of the resources in the practice setting.

Conclusion

The *Five Steps* resources provide practical advice to GPs and practice staff aimed at improving access to quality and culturally responsive healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

References (If applicable)

RACGP. 2017. Five steps towards excellent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare. Accessed from: <https://www.racgp.org.au/yourracgp/faculties/aboriginal/guides/5-steps/>