

Our area of work

The Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network (CESPHN) has a catchment that covers 11 local government areas that include:

- Bayside
- Burwood
- Canada Bay
- Canterbury-Bankstown
- Georges River
- Inner West
- Randwick
- Strathfield
- Sutherland Shire
- Sydney
- Waverley

Our boundaries align with those of South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and Sydney Local Health District

Contact Us

Central and Eastern Sydney PHN
Level 5, 201 Coward Street
Mascot, NSW 2020

Phone 1300 986 991



Central and Eastern Sydney PHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land across which we work. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community and pay respect to Elders past, present and future.

Central and Eastern Sydney PHN gratefully acknowledges the financial and other support of the Australian Government Department of Health.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health assessments

Information for GP's and Health Professionals

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CENTRAL AND
EASTERN SYDNEY

An Australian Government Initiative

What's the aim?

Early identification and treatment could help improve health outcomes and increase life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The aim of the health assessment is to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of all ages receive primary health care matched to their needs, by:

- early detection
- diagnosis and treatment
- development of a patient health management plan.

Conducting the health assessment

A 715 health assessment should include an assessment of the patient's physical, psychological, and social wellbeing.

Key elements include:

- Information collection
- Overall assessment of the patient
- Recommending appropriate follow up care
- Advice and information to the patient
- A record of the assessment
- Providing the patient, or their carer, with a copy of the assessment and follow up plan.

A Practice Nurse, Aboriginal Health Worker or Aboriginal Health Practitioner may assist with

the initial testes and medical history. A General Practitioner delivers the final assessment and recommends appropriate follow up care.

Benefits for practitioners

- The 715 MBS item fee is paid at 100% benefit. The latest fees are available at mbsonline.gov.au
- Following a 715 health check a patient has access to follow up MBS items, making it easier to support you patient to manage their health.

Follow up care

A 715 health assessment should identify a strategy for the patients good health. This could include follow up services or referrals. It may also include the individual actions the patient, or carer should take. 10 follow up items are claimable, per patient, per year.

This can include:

- Further examinations
- Access to counselling and lifestyle activities
- Prevention services for chronic conditions
- Clinical progress checks

Patients must have completed a 715 health assessment to be eligible for follow up Allied Health Services (MBS items 81300 - 81360). Eligible patients can receive a maximum of 5

services per year.

These include:

- Aboriginal Health Worker
- Diabetes Education
- Audiology
- Podiatry
- Exercise Physiology
- Chiropractic
- Dietetics
- Osteopathy
- Mental Health Worker
- Psychology
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Physiotherapy

Resources

The NACCHO/RACGP National guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples provides the evidence to support a 715 health check: www.racgp.org.au/national-guide

Frequently asked questions

[How can I identify Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patients?](#)

You can ask patients if they wish to identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. You can include this information for new patients on your patient registration form.