

Closing the Gap Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Co-payment Program Registration (CTG PBS Co-payment Program)

Important Information:

The grace period to register patients for the CTG PBS Co-payment Program has been extended to 30 June 2022.

Background:

The CTG PBS Co-payment Program was established to improve access to affordable PBS medicines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living with, or at risk of, chronic disease, and who in their doctor's opinion would experience setbacks in the prevention or ongoing management of chronic disease if they did not take the prescribed medicine and would be unlikely to adhere to their medicine's regimen without assistance through the program.

In May 2020, it was announced that changes would be made to enhance the program.

Eligibility of patients for the CTG PBS Co-payment Program:

- Self-identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian
(Please note: Proof of Aboriginality is not required to be shown/presented to prescribers or pharmacist to determine the individual's Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander status to access this government assisted program)
- Will have setbacks in preventing or managing their condition if they don't take the medicine
- Are unlikely to keep up their treatment without help with the cost
- Are enrolled with Medicare

The patient's age, where they live, and their chronic disease status do not matter.

Note:

- This is a ONCE ONLY on-line registration (new centralised patient registration database for the program) via the Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) of eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients no matter where they live, and regardless of their chronic disease status to receive CTG PBS Co-payment for medications on the PBS, anywhere in Australia (nationwide)
- There is no paperwork to be completed for registration of eligible patients
- GP or registered Prescribers need only to CONFIRM your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patient's eligibility status through your PRODA account via HPOS
- Once you assess a patient is eligible, your HPOS delegate can register them

More Information and Support:

For more information, please visit the [Services Australia website](#). Training is [available here](#).

If you would like some training/support for your general practice team, please contact your APHN Practice Support Team member on 08 8219 5900 or via practicesupport@adelaidephn.com.au.

CTG Integrated Team Care (ITC) Program:

Please note that CTG PBS Co-payment Program is a separate program from the CTG Integrated Team Care Program.

The CTG ITC Program supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to better manage their chronic health conditions and increase access to medical specialists and allied health providers.

For more information on how to refer your patients to the Closing the Gap Integrated Team Care Program to help better manage their complex chronic health condition, please visit the [Sonder website](#) or contact Sonder's Indigenous Health Project Officer Schania Czygan on 0410 557 626 or (08) 8209 0700 or via SCzygan@sonder.net.au.