

Is your baby of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?



Thank you for helping us
with this important question.

For more information contact:

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We need to ask everyone.
We need you to tell us.

Why am I asked?

All health services in Australia aim to provide quality health care to all people.

We are also working together to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people because there is still a big and unacceptable difference in health and life expectancy.

To know if these are improving, and to know if we are providing services in the right way, we need to know if people are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

If you are not asked, it is important to tell the staff if you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

What about privacy?

All information collected by the health service is subject to privacy laws to ensure that your information is protected and used appropriately.

How will I be asked?

You may be asked to fill out a form or you may be asked by a staff member.

The question is:

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

On forms, the options for answering are:

- No
- Yes, Aboriginal
- Yes, Torres Strait Islander

(For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'yes' boxes).

Some forms have an extra box:

- Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

You will also be asked this question about your baby

Is your baby of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

What if I answer yes?

If we know that you or your baby are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin:

- We may be able to offer you Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, such as a hospital liaison officer or health worker who could help with your care.
- It means that all staff can consider any cultural needs that you might have.
- Your baby may be eligible for additional vaccines to minimise health risks.

