

Closing the Gap 2019

Annual registration

Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent?

What does this mean for you?



If you are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent:

Fill out this form and take it to your health centre.

1. You will get free prescription medication on Thursday Island and you will get cheaper medication on the mainland. If you see a doctor on the mainland tell them you are signed up for Closing the Gap (CTG).
2. Thursday Island GP services will be your primary health centre and we will help look after your health care.
3. You can get a free yearly health check.
4. You will be signed up for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Co-payment Measure and if you are eligible – for the Practice Incentives Program Indigenous Health Incentive.

If you are not of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent:

From 1 February 2018 prescription medication subsidies were brought in line with the rest of Australia. You will be paying for prescription medication.

If you have a valid concession or health care card your medication will be discounted.

If you are on a blister pack you will not be affected by the change. Your medications will still be subsidised.

If you are concerned about how this will affect you and your health care please talk to your doctor or your pharmacist.

Printed copies are uncontrolled

Closing the Gap questions

What if I am eligible but I don't want to fill out the form?

If you don't fill in the form you will pay for your prescription medication.

What if I don't identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent?

You are not eligible for Closing the Gap (CTG) and you will pay for your prescription medication. If you have a valid concession or health care card your medication will be discounted.

What if I am on a blister pack?

If you get your medication as a blister pack – your medication will still be subsidised. However, if you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander you still need to sign up for CTG.

What if I identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander but don't have a valid Medicare card?

The reception staff at the Community Wellness Centre on Thursday Island can help you get a Medicare card or renew your card. Or, you can call the Medicare Australia Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander line 1800 556 955.

What if I don't live on Thursday Island, Hammond Island or Prince of Wales Island?

If you identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin you should still sign the CTG form with your primary health care centre.

What if I'm eligible but I'm under 18?

Your parent or guardian can fill in and sign the form for you.

How do the multiple/family forms work?

Fill in the form and everyone over 18 must sign the patient consent form (the last page).

More information:

Visit: GP Services, Community Wellness Centre, Thursday Island

Hotline: 07 4030 6107

Email: TCHHS-CWC-GPServices@health.qld.gov.au

Web: www.health.qld.gov.au/torres-cape/html/prescription-medication