

Summary Sheet

Adding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are under-identified in many health-related data collections. Self-report in response to the standard Indigenous status question is the most accurate means of ascertaining a patient's Indigenous or non-Indigenous status and this information is recorded in the patient record as 'ATSI status'. The response to this question allows service providers to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients have an opportunity to access relevant services specifically designed to meet the needs of Indigenous Australians – if they choose.

Adding ATSI status:

1. **Open** a patient record (F2).
2. Select **Open > Demographics**.
3. Select the **Ethnicity** drop-down arrow.
4. Select an **option** from the list.

Ethnicity:
 Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander
 Australian, non indigenous
 Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander
 Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal
 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
 Other
 Not provided

Note: if 'Other' is chosen, a pop-up list of ethnicities will be displayed to select from.

5. **Save**.

Question: *Are you [is the person] of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?*

Response: Six standard response options are provided in **Bp Premier** as follows:

1. No, Australian, non indigenous
2. Yes, Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander
3. Yes, Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal
4. Yes, Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
5. Other
6. Not provided

Note: If the question has not been completed on a returned form, this should be followed up and confirmed with the patient.

Further Information: How to ask about ATSI status

[RACGP "Identification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australian general practices"](#)

[RACGP "National Guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people"](#)

[AIHW "National best practice guidelines for collecting Indigenous status in health data sets"](#)