

Incentives News Update

Updates to the Practice Incentives Program Indigenous Health Incentive Guidelines

The Government announced changes to the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Indigenous Health Incentive Guidelines (IHI) in the 2021–22 Federal Budget. The changes aim to improve continuity of care and management of chronic diseases and mental disorders for First Nations people.

The second phase of changes will take effect on 1 January 2024 and will include:

- an increase to Tier 2 payments
- a reduction in registration payments.

The table below outlines the payment transition:

	1 January 2023	1 January 2024	1 January 2025
Registration	\$150	\$100	\$0
Tier 1 outcome	\$100	\$100	\$100
Tier 2 outcome	\$150	\$200	\$300

The PIP IHI Guidelines have been updated and took effect on 1 November 2023. View the updated PHP IHI Guidelines on our website by searching QC52524.

To find out more about changes to the PIP IHI Guidelines, search IHI on the Department of Health and Aged Care's website.

Update to the PIP IHI patient registration and consent form (IP017)

The PIP IHI is moving towards lifetime patient registration, which means from January 2025 you won't need to re-register existing patients each year. We've updated the PIP IHI patient registration and consent form to support your patients moving to lifetime registration.

You'll need to discard any printed or saved versions of the old IP017 form and download the updated one. We no longer accept the old version and your registration may be rejected if you use it.

To download the updated form go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/ip017

Updated Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) Guidelines

The Department of Health and Aged Care have updated the Workforce Incentive Program (WIP) guidelines, splitting them into separate guidelines:

- the WIP Practice Stream Guidelines
- the WIP Doctor Stream Guidelines.

The WIP Rural Advanced Skills Guidelines will be introduced from 1 January 2024.

The updated guidelines will provide clarity between the three streams.

Find more information at health.gov.au/workforceincentiveprogram

Updates to the Overview of the National General Practice Accreditation Scheme

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) has updated the Overview of the National General Practice Accreditation (NGPA) Scheme on their website.

The update aligns information about:

- extensions and appeals with Advisory 23/02 Requests for extensions and appeals
- standardised repeat assessment with Advisory 23/03: Standardised repeat assessment of general practices.

For more information go to safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/accreditation/national-general-practice-accreditation-scheme

Commencement of standardised repeat accreditation assessment

The Commission has standardised requirements for repeat accreditation assessment for general practices under the NGPA Scheme. In the past, accrediting agencies determined the need for repeat assessments and the criteria for doing this has not always been consistent.

From 1 January 2024, general practices assessed under the NGPA Scheme that don't meet more than 20% of the mandatory indicators will fall under the new requirements.

For more information go to safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/accreditation/national-general-practice-accreditation-scheme

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