



Scripted responses:

“Are you (is the patient) of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?”

If a patient asks why you are asking the question, you can respond:

- The question is asked of all patients, regardless of appearance, country of birth, or whether they are personally known to this health service
- Whether you answer “yes” or “no”, you will receive the same high standard of health care that best meets your needs
- Personal information you provide to this service is protected by a strict Privacy Act
- We can’t make a judgment on whether a person is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin based on their appearance
- We ask every client this question to ensure that culturally appropriate care and support can be provided
- This is a standard question we ask every client, so that we can improve the health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients
- As a service provider, we cannot assume the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status of anybody, therefore we ask every patient this question.



For more information about how to ask the question, visit heartfoundation.org.au/your-heart/aboriginal-health

**Have you asked
the question?**

