



# ABORIGINAL HEALTH

*No ordinary training post*

**A placement in Aboriginal health can be a rewarding challenge, and one that can make an incredible contribution to improved health outcomes for a community that has the poorest health status in Australia.**

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Did you know?



## DIABETES

The level of diabetes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is more than three times higher than for non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

## STRESSORS

Almost 7 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience one or more significant stressors such as the death of a family member or friend, serious illness, unemployment, alcohol or drug-related problems, and mental illness.

## -10 YEARS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children born today are expected to live an average of 10 years less than non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children.

## CANCER

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are 2.8 times more likely to have liver cancer than non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.



*“Working in Aboriginal health requires us to be flexible, team-oriented and always patient-centred in our approach – this can be a very liberating way to work.”*

**GP SUPERVISOR, DR LIZ WEARNE**



**The gap still  
needs to be  
closed.**

**>> You are an important part of the community**

You won't believe how quickly you'll build relationships and become an important part of the community by providing medical services through an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.

**>> There is time to deliver the holistic care your patient needs**

You can work eight-hour days, with extended consultations and a high level of autonomy. Without the pressure of fee-for-service consulting there is time to connect with your patient, create a plan, and work collaboratively to deliver more holistic and culturally appropriate care.

**>> You can do both**

If you are looking for variation, you can work part-time in a mainstream practice and part-time in Aboriginal health.

**>> Skills that can take you anywhere you want to go**

You will be challenged medically and culturally. What you experience could alter your career and change your perspective, and take you anywhere from urban or rural practice to the remotest of communities.

**>> You are supported by a multi-disciplinary team**

You will have the support of a cultural mentor to help you with the knowledge needed to practise in a culturally safe and acceptable way. Aboriginal health workers are on hand to support and bridge gaps in understanding during consultations.

**>> Experience complex healthcare**

Your patients' needs are inherently more complex than those you may experience in mainstream general practice environments. You'll always be supported to provide high-quality patient care with the team of nurses, Aboriginal health workers, allied health professionals, and passionate supervisors right behind you the whole way.



*"In the Aboriginal health services there are health workers, nurses and other staff including cultural mentors to assist with cross-cultural awareness and understanding."*

**GP SUPERVISOR, DR RAY CARNE**





Bunurong Health Service,  
Dandenong & District Aborigines  
Co-operative Ltd

Ramahyuck & District  
Aboriginal Cooperative

Gippsland &  
East Gippsland  
Aboriginal  
Cooperative

Lake Tyers Health  
and Children's  
Services

Lakes Entrance  
Aboriginal Health  
Association

Moogji Aboriginal  
Medical Centre

## THE FINE PRINT

### Eligibility

Eligible registrars need to be at GPT3/PRR3 stage. If you're at GPT2/PRR2 you may be considered if you've had prior experience working in an Aboriginal health setting. You will be required to undertake cultural awareness training prior to taking this placement.

### Flexibility

This training can be undertaken as a composite post where you can share your time between an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service and a mainstream general practice. We can work with you to tailor your learning needs and level of interest while meeting the needs of the practices.

### Duration

Training posts are available for one or two semesters. The duration of the placement and the number of sessions per week is negotiable.

### Recognition

Aboriginal health placements undertaken in accredited facilities are recognised by both ACCRRM and RACGP as either general practice training or extended or advanced skills training.

### Application process

To register your interest in completing a training post in Aboriginal health, email your details and résumé to [aboriginal.health@evgptraining.com.au](mailto:aboriginal.health@evgptraining.com.au). As part of the selection process you'll be required to attend an interview.

### Maybe you're looking for an academic post?

If the idea of undertaking research in Aboriginal health appeals to you, an academic post could be a pathway for you. Look into it on the Eastern Victoria GP Training website at [www.evgptraining.com.au](http://www.evgptraining.com.au).

For more information, contact the Eastern Victoria GP  
Training Aboriginal Health Training Coordinator

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