

Nomenclature Principles pertaining to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples – Quick Guide



This Guide accompanies the Eastern Victoria GP Training: *IM-SD-7.2 Nomenclature Principles pertaining to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*

Terminology approved for use at EV including correct capitalisation

	Individuals or Groups/collectives
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples – <i>peoples in the plural as it is considered inclusive. Also pluralise – histories, cultures, perspectives etc</i>
	Aunt/s – Auntie/s – Uncle/s. <i>Always ask an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person introduced to you as Aunt or Uncle how they would like to be addressed.</i>
	Australian Aboriginals
	Elder/s
	First Australians
	First Nations Peoples
	Non-Indigenous - <i>when referring to non-Aboriginal or non-Torres Strait Islander Australians. Alternative approved terms – other Australians, wider community.</i>
	Traditional Custodian/s or Traditional Owner/s
	Other
	Acknowledgement of Country
	Community. <i>Capitalise when referring to a specific community, for example – Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Co-operative patients and Community.</i>
	Welcome to Country

Terminology not approved for use at EV

	Individuals or Groups/collectives
	Aboriginal/s - <i>as standalone term - is considered non-inclusive of cultures and identities across Australia.</i>
	Aborigine/s
	full blood, half-caste. <i>These terms are outdated and extremely offensive.</i>
	Indigenous - <i>considered offensive. Can be used, for example when citing from documents/literature.</i>
	native/native Australians – <i>considered offensive.</i>
	Describing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as disadvantaged - <i>is not preferred – is non strengths-based language and perpetuates patronising or paternalistic rhetoric.</i>
	Other
acronyms such as ATSI, TI, TSI - <i>considered offensive.</i>	

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Reference:

Reconciliation Australia. *RAP good practice guide: Demonstrating inclusive and respectful language.*
<https://www.reconciliation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/language-guide-1.pdf> [accessed: 21 August 2019].