



pathways  
southwest

Towards better mental health

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# Aboriginal Cultural Policy & Procedure

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THIS POLICY & PROCEDURE APPLIES TO: Pathways SouthWest Board of Management, Staff, Students, Volunteers, Consumers, Carers, other Stakeholders and the General Public

## Aboriginal Cultural Policy & Procedure

### Policy

Pathways SouthWest recognises, respects and values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and is committed to the National reconciliation efforts to create a united Australia that provides equity for all. As such, National Mental Health Standards pay respect to the traditional owners as custodians of the land on which we work, by implementing and monitoring strategies that promote the values of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

### Procedure

Pathways SouthWest staff must:

- Use the appropriate terminology as defined within the WA Health OD 0439/13 "Use of the term 'Aboriginal' in all forms of WA Health communication" when referring to Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Indigenous people and when developing patient information pamphlets and promotional material.
- Promote processes to actively engage with Aboriginal people with regard to health care delivery.
- Follow the WA Health Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Traditional Ownership – Guidelines and Protocols for WA Health 2016)" for official functions.
- Complete Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training appropriate to the community in which we serve (as provided by Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisations).
- Encourage feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on their health care experiences including compliments and complaints.
- Access, utilise and monitor use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interpreters available from the NMHS Director Aboriginal Health.

### References

[National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards 2017 - Diversity Responsiveness](#)

[Map of the NSQHS Standards \(second edition\) with the National Standards for Mental Health Services](#)

[National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards User Guide for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health](#)

[Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Traditional Ownership – Guidelines and Protocols for WA Health](#)

WA Health OD 0439/13 "Use of the term '[Aboriginal](#)' in all forms of WA Health communication"