



Appendix 4

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed.
It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: Couzos S, Delaney-Thiele D, Page P. Primary Health Networks and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health. *Med J Aust* 2016; 204: 234-237. doi: 10.5694/mja15.00975.

APPENDIX 4. Potentially preventable hospitalisations – a performance measure for primary health services

Potentially preventable hospitalizations (PPH) are hospital admissions for certain acute, chronic and vaccine preventable diseases which could be prevented if primary health care was more responsive, accessible, acceptable and appropriate. Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in remote or very remote locations have nearly six times the rate of PPH (selected) than non-Indigenous Australians (age-standardised, 2009-10). In major cities, inner and outer regional areas, rates are 2-3 times higher.¹ PPH rates are 1.5 times higher than non-Indigenous Australians even after controlling for age, sex and remoteness.²

Differential PPH rates exist in LHN regions, but data is not disaggregated by Aboriginality. For example in Queensland, Cape York, the Torres- Strait Northern Peninsular, and the North West LHNs report two times the rate of PPHs in their populations than the state-average.³

Sources:

1. Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision. 2012-13 National Agreement performance information: National Healthcare Agreement. Productivity Commission, Canberra, 2013: 447.
2. Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision. Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2014. Productivity Commission, Canberra, 2014: 8.12.
3. Queensland Health. The health of Queenslanders 2014. Fifth Report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Queensland Government, Brisbane, 2014:32.