



# Information sheet

## Cultural Information Section of the Clinical Report

This information sheet is for Indigenous Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs (IMHAOD) workers and other Authorised Mental Health Service (AMHS) staff. The Mental Health Review Tribunal (Tribunal) acknowledges the valuable contribution IMHAOD workers bring to a patient's clinical care and recovery. The cultural information section of the clinical report is an opportunity for the Tribunal to consider cultural elements when reviewing a patient's involuntary status. Therefore, it is important that the AMHS complete the cultural information section to assist the Tribunal to take cultural factors into account in their deliberations.

### Why is there a Cultural Information section?

The Tribunal considers cultural information to be an essential element of any review for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

The cultural information section allows the Tribunal to consider all the relevant factors about a patient's cultural background in determining the matter.

### Where is the Cultural Information section in the Clinical Report?

The cultural information section precedes the recommendation section in all Tribunal clinical reports.

### Who completes the Cultural Information section?

IMHAOD workers in an AMHS are ideally placed to gather cultural information and complete the cultural information section on behalf of the treating team.

The authorised psychiatrist is ultimately responsible for ensuring the cultural information section in the clinical report is completed.

### What information is required?

Any current and new information relating to the cultural background of the patient including their community of origin, cultural identity, languages spoken, cultural and spiritual beliefs, family and kinship dynamics, grief and loss or sorry business, men's and women's business and cultural strengths should be included in the cultural information section. Any support available in a patient's community to help with their recovery should also be included. Information about a patient's preference not to identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person or engage with the available cultural supports should also be provided to the MHRT.

No clinical information is required in the cultural information section.