

Title: National Eye Care and Equipment Inventory Project

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Draft Abstract: The Foundation's Indigenous Australia Program (IAP) together with support provided by Indigenous Eye Health, the University of Melbourne and Vision 2020 Australia, were commissioned by the Australian Government to undertake the National Eye Care Equipment Inventory Project (NECEIP) an audit of eye health testing equipment at primary health care services across Australia with a high proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients. The audit was conducted in preparation for the Medicare item number 12325 for diabetic retinopathy screening that came into effect on 1 November 2016 and to capture information about the accessibility and availability of eye care equipment across Australia. The information collected was used to identify and prioritise health facilities that were eligible to receive a new retinal camera and training. As a result, 155 primary health care sites across Australia have received retinal cameras through an Australian Government funded project.

Data and information collected from NECEIP has also been used to inform Vision 2020s *Strong Eyes, Strong Communities: A five-year plan for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health and vision* which makes recommendations to the Australian Government to enhance service delivery and support equipment needs for primary and secondary health care services as a priority.