

## Who is eligible?

This service is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients who aren't currently seeing an Optometrist or Ophthalmologist.

Transport to and from appointments can also be arranged by contacting the Identified Eye Care Coordinator.

## How to refer

To refer into this service or for more information, contact our Identified Eye Care Coordinator:

 1300 402 585

 [icdclinic@marathonhealth.com.au](mailto:icdclinic@marathonhealth.com.au)

Call the Identified Eye Care Coordinator on  
**1300 402 585**  
or go to  
**marathonhealth.com.au**



**Marathon Health** is a not-for-profit, registered charity delivering high quality health and wellbeing services to people wherever they choose to live.

The **Bathurst Indigenous Eye Care Pathway** receives funding through the Australian Government's Medical Outreach Indigenous Chronic Disease Program and Ear and Eye Surgical Services Support Program, which is administered by the NSW Rural Doctors Network in NSW and the ACT. The pathway is supported by the Western NSW Eye Health Partnership, a Fred Hollows Foundation project.



# Bathurst Indigenous Eye Care Pathway

**Bulk billed eye care  
for Aboriginal clients  
in Bathurst**

## Better access to eye services

The Bathurst Indigenous Eye Care Pathway connects eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients to bulk billed specialist eye services through an Optometry and Ophthalmology Clinic.

An Identified Eye Care Coordinator supports clients at all Optometry and Ophthalmology appointments and on surgery days.



## Ophthalmology clinic

If needed, clients can be referred by the Optometry Clinic to a local Ophthalmologist. All consultations, tests and treatments will be bulk billed. If cataract surgery is needed, clients will be placed on the Bathurst Hospital waiting list.

Further treatment options through the Ophthalmology Clinic includes general eye procedures and medical retinal treatments like anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) injections, such as Avastin or Lucentis, and in-clinic laser treatments.

Clients who need further specialist consultations that aren't covered under the program, will be referred to an appropriate service.

## Optometry clinic

Clients receive monthly comprehensive eye exams – if glasses are required, clients can choose pairs from the NSW Government Spectacle Scheme range at no cost.

## Indigenous eye health

First Australians have lower rates of eye examinations than non-Indigenous Australians across all age groups.

**30%**  
**ABORIGINAL OR  
TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER PEOPLES  
EXPERIENCE  
LONG-TERM  
EYE CONDITIONS**  
**3x** RATE OF  
**VISION LOSS**  
**6x** RATE OF  
**BLINDNESS**