

DIGITAL HEALTH CORE OVERVIEW INCLUDING MY HEALTH RECORD

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THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

KEY POINTS

Funding for the My Health Record system

- The Government is investing \$200 million in 2019-20 for continued operation of the My Health Record system and key national digital health infrastructure, including:
 - \$2.1 million for the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to continue conducting regular independent assessments and regulatory oversight of the My Health Record system; and
 - the Commonwealth's contribution of \$32.25 million to the Intergovernmental Agreement on National Digital Health to continue progressing priorities under Australia's National Digital Health Strategy – Safe, Seamless and Secure (2018-2022).

My Health Record system security

- My Health Record system security protects records from unauthorised access and guards against cyber-attacks. The controls include secure gateways and firewalls, encryption, authentication mechanisms and malicious content filtering.
- The system is monitored around the clock by the Agency's dedicated Cyber Security Centre, which has been tested by the Australian Signals Directorate.
- The My Health Record system has been certified and accredited under the Australian Government Information Security Manual. The system is tested frequently to ensure the security settings are robust and working as designed.
- There has been no security breach in the seven years the My Health Record system has been in operation.

Privacy framework

- The OAIC conducts regular independent assessments and provides regulatory oversight of the My Health Record system.
- The OAIC was consulted on the recent amendments to strengthen the privacy settings of the *My Health Records Act 2012*.

Research and public health

- The Department is working with the Australian Digital Health Agency and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to implement the *Framework to guide the secondary use of My Health Record system data*.
- Work is underway to develop rules to support the framework, as well as governance and technical arrangements.
- Data will not be available for research or public health purposes before 2020.

Family and Domestic Violence

- The Government recognises domestic violence as a serious matter.
- If the System Operator is made aware that someone has restricted access to their child, or may pose a risk to the child or another person associated with the child, it can prevent that person from accessing their child's My Health Record.
- The System Operator is not required to notify affected persons of its decision if doing so may pose a risk to someone.

Date QTB: 17 January 2019

Last Updated by Department: 17 June 2019

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Teen Privacy

- When a teenager turns 14 years old, parents can no longer access their My Health Record, however the teenager can take simple steps to allow their parent continued access to their My Health Record.
- The Government has announced it will review the My Health Record privacy protections for young people to determine the appropriateness of the change.

FACTS & FIGURES

- As at 28 April 2019 the national participation rate for My Health Record is 90.1 per cent.
- There are 15,700 healthcare provider organisations connected to the My Health Record system, including:
 - 7,060 general practices;
 - 4,700 pharmacies; and
 - 1,019 hospitals, including 832 public and 187 private hospitals and clinics.

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