



Important information from the  
Australian Digital Health Agency

# Expansion of My Health Record

This year, every individual with a Medicare or Department of Veterans' Affairs card will get a My Health Record unless they tell us they don't want one.

Through independent research, individuals have told us their preferred way to receive information about My Health Record is from you – as their trusted General Practitioner. It is likely that your patients may come to you for advice about how My Health Record works and how it can be trusted. It will result in safer and more efficient care.

Currently, more than 1 in 5 Australians already have a My Health Record. In July, the program will be expanded to an 'opt-out' participation model and by the end of 2018 all Australians will have a record unless they choose not to have one.

The three month opt-out period is being held from **16 July to 15 October 2018**. During this period, individuals who do not want to have a My Health Record can opt out by:

- ◆ Going to [www.myhealthrecord.gov.au](http://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au)
- ◆ Calling the Help line on **1800 723 471**
- ◆ Contacting their Indigenous Health Service

It is not possible to opt out from My Health Record until 16 July 2018.

Our toolkit aims to provide you with the information and resources you need to assist you in answering your patients' enquiries about My Health Record, including discussion of benefits such as:

- ◆ In a medical emergency, healthcare providers connected to the My Health Record system can see their patient's health information such as allergies, medicines and immunisations. This helps them to provide them with the best possible treatment and care.
- ◆ When a healthcare provider uses a patient's My Health Record, it means the patient doesn't need to remember and repeat their medical story, such as their prescriptions or the names of tests they've had.
- ◆ My Health Record helps a patient to keep track of their children's health, immunisations and any medical tests.

Enclosed in our toolkit are the following materials:

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| ◆ Landscape and portrait posters  | ◆ 'Keeping your My Health Record information safe' factsheets |
| ◆ DL brochures  | ◆ GP provider factsheets                                      |
| ◆ Window decals   | ◆ Stickers  |
| ◆ Table tent cards  | ◆ Tear-off notepads   |
| ◆ Standard factsheets (same wording as the DL brochure, but a printable file) | ◆ Brochure holders  |

Additional copies of these materials are available to order on a **print-on-demand basis** through our printing partner IMMIJ. You can find further information about this and the online ordering portal at [myhealthrecord.immij.com](http://myhealthrecord.immij.com).

Your login details are:

Username – \*\*\*\*\* | Password – \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for your support in improving patient outcomes for Australians through better access to their clinical information.

With best wishes,

**Clinical Professor Meredith Makeham**  
BMed (Hons) MPH (Hons) PhD FRACGP  
Chief Medical Adviser  
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## What is My Health Record?

My Health Record is an online summary of an individual's key health information. For your patients, it means their medical conditions, medicines, allergies and test results are kept together in one place.

Individuals can choose who sees their My Health Record and what's in it. They can choose to share their information with the healthcare providers involved in their care.

My Health Record has various safeguards in place to protect an individual's health information including encryption, firewalls and secure login. My Health Record data is stored in Australia and is managed by the Australian Digital Health Agency in line with the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework.

In addition to these measures, the My Health Record system is protected by legislation which governs the way the system is accessed, managed and used.

*For more information about the privacy and security of the My Health Record system, please refer to the factsheet titled 'Keeping your My Health Record information safe' in this toolkit*

## As a General Practice, what do we need to do?

Clinical leadership is essential in the transformation of healthcare. Australia has a momentous opportunity to create the digital health infrastructure that will produce benefits long into the future.

### **Keep talking to your patients about the benefits of having a My Health Record**

As more people use My Health Record and information in the system grows, it will help support clinical decision-making.

All patients will benefit from having a digital record of their medical history that is accessible by their treating healthcare providers. Particularly those who have complex health conditions or who see several healthcare providers.

### **View your patients' records**

1 in 5 Australians already have a My Health Record. Many healthcare services are already uploading information to and/or viewing information in the My Health Record. You may see important health information that you might not otherwise have had access to – such as hospital discharge, prescription and dispense information.

### **Prioritise uploading a Shared Health Summary for those patients who need it most**

We know you won't have time to upload a Shared Health Summary for all of your patients, so prioritise these patients as they will benefit the most from having one.

### **Get in touch if you would like support**

We can provide you with assistance, including face-to-face training and online resources if required. You are also welcome to visit [MyHealthRecord.gov.au](https://myhealthrecord.gov.au) or call the Help Line on **1800 723 471** (Select option 2 for healthcare providers) for further information.



For more information go to:

**MyHealthRecord.gov.au | Help line 1800 723 471**