

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

National e-Health Transition Authority (NeHTA)

Budget Estimates 2011-12, Supplementary Estimates

OUTCOME 10.2: e-Health

Topic: PCEHR

Senator BOYCE asked:

**In terms of the use of the standards to develop product to be used in the PCEHR, I am using really broad terms so that I do not inadvertently narrow my inquiry field because I do not know how broad my inquiry field really should be. Accenture and the wave 1 and wave 2 people have been using these bundles of specifications and standards that you have mentioned. What is the feedback on them? Has there been any evaluation of the use of them et cetera?**

Answer:

NEHTA's specifications are being adopted and implemented by software vendors and implementers today, and we actively support adoption by sharing lessons, providing communications and information sessions and directly engaging with vendors on technical matters. As a matter of course wherever we can improve our specifications to better enable the market we will do this. Our specifications are enabling a new set of features to be built into software products and implementer's systems, that enable healthcare providers better access to more accurate and timely information supporting their clinical processes.

The Release 1a of the PCEHR further supports software vendors and implementers to test their readiness for the PCEHR, and to provide valuable feedback on both technical and "in use" issues with the NEHTA Specifications and National Infrastructure.

Release 1a provides medical software developers with an environment in which they can:

- test the development of their products against the national infrastructure;
- retrieve example information for test purposes from the PCEHR; and
- upload example clinical documents into the pre-production PCEHR environment.