

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000499

OUTCOME: 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: eHealth Implementation Issues

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Xenophon, Nick

Question:

In the recent Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) Review, it recommends a change in the approach to correct early implementation issues and to review the role that the shared electronic health record plays in the health care system.

a) Will you be consulting a range of medical professionals in order to re-visit the initial design phase?

b) Will you be employing the services of the same IT professionals as used in the previous design phase?

Answer:

- a) The Department of Health is undertaking a consultation process with healthcare providers, consumers and the ICT industry, to obtain stakeholder views on the review's recommendations and how they might be implemented. The consultations commenced in July and will continue until September 2014. Careful planning and consultation are required to ensure that the Government's response to the recommendations of the review provide the best results for consumers and clinicians.
- b) The Department is broadening the design approach for the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record to bring together IT and healthcare professionals. This will ensure that the design fits with healthcare providers' natural business flows.