

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 3.1 Access and Information**

**Question No: SQ15-000351**

**Topic: PCEHR**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Polley, Helen** asked:

As aged care provides health services second only to the state health systems by volume, will the government support aged care providers with funding to integrate their systems with the Personally Controlled E-Health Records as it has done for private hospitals?

If so, how much will be provided?

If not, why not?

**Answer:**

Future development of the My Aged Care system includes consideration of My Aged Care integrating with related systems, including the Personally Controlled E-Health Record (PCEHR).

Integration with PCEHR would provide GPs and other relevant medical professionals with the ability to access to a patient's aged care information via the PCEHR. This integration would not enable aged care providers to equally access a client's health information contained within the PCEHR. Aged care providers will, however, have access to health information that is collected from the client, with their consent, as part of an aged care assessment conducted by My Aged Care.

The Department of Health has advised on the PCEHR itself, that \$485.1 million has been allocated in the 2015-16 Budget over four years for strengthened eHealth governance arrangements and trials of participation arrangements, including opt-out. It also includes three years funding for continued operation and redevelopment of the PCEHR system. It does not include funding for any healthcare provider software to integrate with the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record system.