

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000917

OUTCOME: 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

Topic: My Health Record

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

How will individual accounts be created and activated? Automatically created for everyone with a Medicare card? Activated after first visit to the doctor post start date?

a) If accounts are set up automatically, where does this leave people who want to use a pseudonym (as allowed)? Will they have to manually delete or manage automatically generated accounts?

Answer:

Design work is underway to finalise the exact process and leverage the learnings from the opt out trials.

As is the current process upon registration, Medicare information will begin to flow automatically into a record when it is first accessed by a doctor, or when it is first accessed by a consumer and they choose for that data to be included.

a) As is current practice, consumers will not be identifiable or traceable through a pseudonym. Consumers can choose to have a My Health Record using their real name as well as a pseudonym, and have the option to merge the two records at any time (after identification verification).