

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000998

OUTCOME: 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

Topic: MyHealth Record

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

I understand use of the MyHealth Record by doctors is minimal, because doctors do not see it as clinically useful or fit for purpose thus far. Is it true that at present the ‘stick’ being used to encourage doctors to use it is that they must upload a certain portion of patients’ Shared Health Summaries or they lose a practice incentive payment – the ePIP?

Answer:

While there were some initial useability issues, there have been a number of improvements to the My Health Record and feedback from doctors in recent times is that the My Health Record is easy to use.

There is a Practice Incentives Program eHealth Incentive (ePIP) incentive available to general practices that choose to participate. Participating practices are required to upload shared health summaries for a minimum of 0.5 per cent of the practice’s Standardised Whole Patient Equivalent (SWPE) count per quarter (approximately five summaries per full time GP, per quarter).

Participation in ePIP is voluntary and practices can withdraw or opt out of an individual quarter at any time.