

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-001000

OUTCOME: 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

Topic: Ehealth

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

The “compact” with the RACGP, includes a promise from the College to support adoption of the MyHealth Record in general practice. How does the government envisage the RACGP encouraging individual practices to use the system? They do not have the power to compel as far as I am aware? What other strategies are in place?

Answer:

GPs have indicated that they will use My Health Record once the majority of their patients have a record. The opt out trials demonstrated this significantly increased uptake and usage by GPs. To support national rollout of opt out consumer participation, the Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have commenced initial discussions on collaboration, which will include:

- The Agency and RACGP developing a peer to peer support initiative enabling all GPs to have a core understanding of My Health Record and consumer Opt Out arrangements.
- The RACGP reviewing My Health Record education materials, curriculum and education delivery mechanisms
- The RACGP, with Agency support, convening and leading a conversation amongst clinical professions and industry to drive the update and refresh of information security standards.