Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-478

OUTCOME 10: Health Systems Capacity and Quality

Topic: EHEALTH SECURITY AND AUDIT TRAIL

Written Question on Notice

Senator BOYCE asked:

The government has promised that the PCEHR will have the capability, known as an audit trail, saying it will help deter unauthorised snooping by ensuring anyone who access medical files without a patient's permission can be quickly and easily identified. Has NEHTA developed that system? Has it been complete? Has it been tested?

Answer:

The personally controlled electronic health record system audit function has been designed with the capability to identify both organisations and individuals who access the system. This is necessary as a security and privacy protection mechanism to protect consumer health information and maintain the integrity of the system.