

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-490

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: EHEALTH – PERSONALLY CONTROLLED ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD
MILESTONES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

What will have been achieved by 30 June 2012 with regards to eHealth and the PCEHR in Australia?

Answer:

The first release of the personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR) system delivers the core functionality required to establish a PCEHR system that can grow over time. The first release will ensure that all individuals seeking care in the Australian healthcare system will have the option to register for a PCEHR from July 2012.

Once the design of the national system has been completed, an assessment of the 12 eHealth sites will be undertaken and a transition plan developed for integration to the national PCEHR system. This will allow early adoption of the PCEHR system for individuals participating in the eHealth sites from July 2012, including the capability to target approximately 500,000 individuals enrolled in those sites.

The Department has also engaged a National Change and Adoption Partner (NCAP) to develop a national change and adoption strategy and delivery plan; to undertake a range of engagement and communications activities across the health sector to encourage uptake of the system by health professionals and consumers. The NCAP is working in collaboration with health care professionals, software vendors, National E-Health Transition Authority and the Department to successfully deliver the PCEHR Program, including training materials and guidelines.