



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

National Priorities in Accelerating Communications in the Health Sector

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What do we want from EHealth?

- Making health care careers sustainable, attractive and rewarding
- Accessing the care needed for the condition at hand
- Making best practice, easy practice
- Getting the balance right – prevention, early intervention and treatment
- Having the right tools for quality improvement - information

The Role of E-Health

- Clinical support systems
- Information and education delivery systems
- Administrative and financial systems
- Data, monitoring and surveillance systems

The Benefits of E-Health

- Safer care with fewer adverse events
- Better quality of care
- More accessible health services
- Greater convenience for patients
- Improved efficiency and value for money

Where are we at?

- Providing incentives for technology take-up – (Practice Incentive Program)
- Provided subsidies for health workers to have access to broadband
- NEHTA and Standards development
- Supporting clinical practice
- Supporting new ways of doing business

Next Steps:

- NEHTA Work
- ePrescribing
- Standards development
- Shared Electronic Health Record

Role of the Commonwealth

- Developing national infrastructure to support the creation and communication of electronic health information
- Creating an environment that supports innovation and uptake of eHealth systems
- Encouraging health professionals to offer their patients access to eHealth systems

Role of Others:

- **Health Care Providers** – incorporate eHealth into practice
- **IT Industry** – develop eHealth systems based on agreed national standards
- **Consumers** – should expect their health professionals to adopt eHealth