



# Overview of My Health Record for community nurses

## What is My Health Record?

My Health Record is Australia's national digital health record system. It provides access to a secure online summary of your patient's key health information.

### Through My Health Record you can access:

- ◆ shared health summaries which include a patient's medical history, immunisations, medicines, allergies and adverse drug reactions;
- ◆ medicines information view which provide access to a collated view of a patient's medications;
- ◆ event summaries which capture key information about significant healthcare events including reason for visit, diagnosis, investigations and treatment plans;
- ◆ discharge summaries for public and private hospitals;
- ◆ specialist letters (private and public);
- ◆ prescription and dispense records;
- ◆ pathology and diagnostic imaging reports;
- ◆ your patient's personal health summary which includes details of allergies and adverse reactions and medicines which are uploaded by the patient; and
- ◆ advance care planning documents and advance care planning document custodian(s).

### When your patient has a My Health Record:

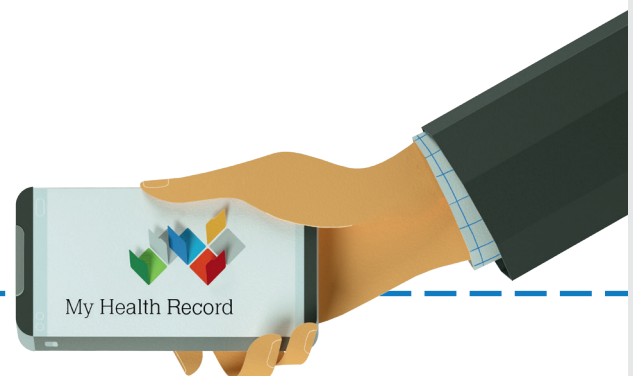
- ◆ clinicians working in hospitals will be able to access it through the hospital's clinical system;
- ◆ clinicians not working in hospitals will be able to access it, once registered, through either conformant clinical systems or the My Health Record Provider Portal; and
- ◆ patients will be able to access it through their myGov account.

## Key benefits

My Health Record provides 24/7 access to your patient's key health information from different care settings and healthcare providers. Access to this growing source of health history information will help the professionals involved in your patient's treatment and care to make more informed choices.

### My Health Record:

- ◆ supports clinical decision making through access to your patient's health information which you may not otherwise have had access to or be aware of;
- ◆ enables better information sharing between healthcare providers and improved continuity of care, particularly for patients who have multiple healthcare providers or complex chronic medical conditions and medications;
- ◆ improves clinical safety and reduces the risk of medication errors and adverse events through greater visibility of patients' medication information, and allergies and adverse reactions, and less reliance on their memory to recount these;
- ◆ reduces time spent chasing clinical information, medical history, results and investigations;
- ◆ encourages patients to be more involved in and better manage their care by giving them improved visibility to their health information; and
- ◆ avoids unnecessary duplication of pathology and diagnostic imaging tests.



For more information go to:

**MyHealthRecord.gov.au** | Help line 1800 723 471  
(Select option 2 for healthcare providers)



## Example of use

“Tina is 46 years-old with Type 1 Diabetes and lives in rural Tasmania. She lacerated her foot and presented a week later at her primary healthcare clinic with elevated blood sugar and an infected foot. Tina told the community nurse she had a My Health Record and the community nurse updated it with an Event Summary. The concerned nurses arranged transport from her remote location to a ‘High Risk Foot Clinic’, where she saw various specialists and a wound care nurse, on the same day. The foot clinic was not only able to access the information on My Health Record and treat the wound appropriately, but by uploading discharge summaries and pathology reports into My Health Record, they enabled the clinic community nurses to provide ongoing care at home. The care teams reported that My Health Record included critical information, and the duplication of tests was avoided as a result, and a timely, efficient transfer of care occurred making it patient-centred.”

**Community nurse, Tasmania**

What to do next...

## Training resources and requests

Determine how this **benefits** me and my patients.

Discover how to use and access and My Health Record in a **hospital** or **other** clinical setting.

Get started professionally on **CPD e-learning modules** accredited for nurses.

Know what nurses need to know My Health Record **webinars, guides and factsheets**.

For access to a range of guides and materials to help you become familiar with using My Health Record.

Visit [www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au](http://www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au) > For healthcare professionals > Access training and resources > Browse by healthcare setting.

## Australian College of Nursing statement

“The core focus of the nursing profession is the health and wellbeing of the patients we care for. With this in mind, I believe My Health Record has the ability to have a profound impact on all Australians as clinicians will have access to a patient’s medical history, regardless of time or location. My Health Record can save lives and improve patient safety by protecting against potential errors caused by having to make clinical decisions without knowing a patient’s history. This is an important moment in securing Australia’s future as a healthy nation by providing a secure electronic medical history for patients. The nursing role in promoting My Health Record to our patients nationwide cannot be underestimated.”

**Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward – Chief Executive Officer, Australian College of Nursing**



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