



Media Release

18 July 2018

Palliative Care Australia promotes My Health Record Expansion Program

Palliative Care Australia (PCA) is proud to support the My Health Record Expansion Program, working closely with the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA), to inform Member Organisations, consumers and stakeholders of the benefits and opt out process of My Health Record.

My Health Record will give people access to their own important health information as well as provide health professionals with their medical history made available in the one place.

A My Health Record can be easily accessed by health professionals which will result in faster and more efficient care for people and their families.

All Australians will have a digitised My Health Record by the end of 2018, unless they specify to opt out during the opt out period. People who choose not to have a My Health Record will be able to opt out during a three-month opt-out period occurring between 16 July and 15 October 2018.

PCA CEO, Liz Callaghan, said it is important people understand how the My Health Record may be significant for people requiring palliative care.

“People accessing palliative care services often have complex needs and their multidisciplinary care team may be located across many sites. The care team often comprises doctors, pharmacists, nurses and allied health professionals. My Health Record makes it easier for those professionals to share information about medications, test results and care plans,” Ms Callaghan said.

ADHA CEO Tim Kelsey said that the benefits of digital health for patients are significant and compelling.

“Having a My Health Record means that your important health information such as allergies, current conditions and treatments, medicine details, and pathology and diagnostic imaging reports can be digitally stored in one place. Australians can also share their advance care planning documents through their My Health Record, ensuring all health professionals know what their wishes for their future care are.”

“My Health Record also places Australians in control of their healthcare and gives authorised healthcare providers secure digital access to key health information at the point of care, wherever that may be,” Mr Kelsey said.

For further information, visit the My Health Record [website](#).

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