What is My Health Record?

My Health Record is an online repository for documents and data that contains information about an individual’s health and healthcare. It can be an additional source of information for general practitioners (GPs) and other healthcare providers.

It is not a replacement for local patient records, a communication or messaging tool for healthcare providers, or a complete source of data.

A My Health Record can contain healthcare information created and uploaded by healthcare consumers and healthcare providers, as well as information from Medicare.

How will My Health Record change in 2019?

My Health Record changes from an ‘opt-in’ self-registration system to an ‘opt-out’ system in 2019.

Types of content in My Health Record

**Entered by healthcare consumers**

- Personal details
- Emergency contact details
- Advance care planning documents
- Personal Health Summary
- Personal health notes (only visible to the healthcare consumer)

**Uploaded by healthcare providers**

- Shared Health Summary (information about a patient’s medical history, medicines, allergies, adverse reactions and immunisations)
- Event Summary (information about one or more episodes of care related to a significant health event)
- Hospital discharge summaries
- Pathology reports
- Diagnostic imaging reports
- Medication prescribing and dispensing history

**Supplied by Medicare**

- Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) claims information
- Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and Repatriation PBS (RPBS) claims information
- Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) records
- Organ donor status from the Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR)
What does this mean for healthcare consumers?

Every person known to Medicare or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs (DVA) will have had a My Health Record created for them in 2019 unless they chose to opt out.

Those who have opted out can set up a record if they have changed their mind.

An individual’s My Health Record will be activated when it is accessed for the first time, and all MBS and PBS data for that person from the previous two years will be moved into the record.

An active record can be cancelled at any time.

Healthcare consumers can contact the Australian Digital Health Agency via their My Health Record website www.myhealthrecord.gov.au or phoning the help line on 1800 723 47 for more information.

What does this mean for healthcare providers?

My Health Record remains opt-in for healthcare providers in that there is no requirement to access a patient’s My Health Record when providing healthcare.

How can a healthcare consumer set access controls on their My Health Record?

Healthcare consumers can:

• remove documents within their My Health Record from view
• restrict access to particular documents
• restrict access to their entire My Health Record so particular healthcare organisations cannot access it.

Registered healthcare providers have ‘authority under the law’ to collect, use and disclose health information in a consumer’s My Health Record for the purpose of providing healthcare to that person (formerly known as ‘standing consent model’). Consumers can direct a healthcare provider not to add particular information to their record, and track access by healthcare organisations.

How can I access My Health Record?

Healthcare consumers can access My Health Record through the myGov portal https://my.gov.au or an authorised mobile app.

Authorised healthcare providers who have registered to use the system can access a patient’s My Health Record through a clinical information system that meets particular requirements, or via the National Provider Portal https://portal.ehealth.gov.au.

How can a general practice register for My Health Record?

There are several steps involved in registering to participate in My Health Record as both a healthcare organisation and as a healthcare provider.

Visit the ‘For healthcare professionals’ section of the Australian Digital Health Agency’s My Health Record website www.myhealthrecord.gov.au for information on how to register.

Australian Digital Health Agency training resources

The Australian Digital Health Agency has developed a range of My Health Record training tools for GPs. Visit the ‘For healthcare professionals’ section of the My Health Record website www.myhealthrecord.gov.au to access the following resources.

Online training

GPs can undertake a self-paced online training program that introduces My Health Record and outlines its features and functionalities. The modules cover a broad range of topics, such as:

• benefits and uses of the My Health Record system across a range of healthcare settings
• types of clinical information that may be found in a My Health Record
• how to view a My Health Record and upload clinical information
• legislation that underpins use of My Health Record.

Each of the five modules is accredited for two Category 2 RACGP Quality Improvement and Continuing Professional Development (QI&CPD) points.

Clinical software simulators and demonstrations

The appearance and functionality of My Health Record will vary across individual general practice clinical information software systems. Software simulators and demonstrations are available to familiarise yourself with viewing, creating and uploading clinical information to fictional patients’ My Health Records.

Clinical software summary sheets

These summary sheets provide step-by-step instructions for viewing, creating and uploading information to My Health Record within various clinical information systems.

RACGP resources

W: www.racgp.org.au/MyHealthRecord

Australian Digital Health Agency resources

T: 1800 723 471 (My Health Record helpline)

W: www.myhealthrecord.gov.au

Contact your clinical information system software vendor for technical assistance.