

Communique: RACGP-CSIRO-NACCHO Collaboration – Smart HealthChecks

Supported by the Commonwealth Department of Health, this project represents the next phase of a collaboration between the CSIRO, RACGP, NACCHO, primary health software vendors other stakeholders. From June 2021 the CSIRO is leading development of SMART Health Checks. These are versions of health checks embedded in clinical software that have a high degree of functionality and useability (eg interact with other parts of the health record, have links to assessment tools, etc) This initiative is a use case (demonstration project) for standards-based software development and SMART functionality and has broader implications for the whole of primary healthcare.

Goals:

1. Develop a standards-based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health check template that is consistent and interoperable across different systems and applications whilst allowing for local adaptation. Based on the key learnings and prototyping:
2. Set a data interoperability road-map
3. Set a national deployment road-map

Outcomes:

1. Clinical software design enhances the clinician and patient experience of healthcare by more efficient recording of health information, incorporating patient priorities, and supporting follow up of identified health needs and goals.
2. Vendors, clinicians and patients are supported by a vision for clinical software that is articulated in road maps for data interoperability and national deployment.

Why is this needed:

1. Currently, the modes of recording and uses of information gathered during a primary healthcare consultation are limited and highly variable across software systems. This leads to inefficient use of clinicians' time in re-collecting and re-recording information, and delivers highly variable value to patients.
2. Much progress has been made through years of collaboration and a road map will support shared clarity, vision, planning and outcomes for software innovation and improvement.

Key activities:

CSIRO:

- Develop and publish a draft FHIR implementation guide standard for the Smart Health Check
- Develop a prototype open source Smart Form server for completing the health check
- Demonstrate how the health check forms can support age and postcode tailored questions, quality indicators, referral pathways and automated follow up etc
- Develop a prototype for consumer pre-population
- Develop prototype screening tools as SMART on FHIR apps
- Develop a comprehensive mixed methods evaluation framework
- Develop an end-to-end data interoperability vision - single provision-multi use

RACGP & NACCHO

- Collaborate with software vendors, CSIRO, primary health teams and other stakeholders to advise on:
 - the workflow of a health check
 - the software user interface requirements for a health check for clinicians (such as GPs, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers/Health Practitioners, nurses, etc), health service support staff and patients
 - design of the completed health check report for patients and for practice teams.

The Broader Collaboration, led by CSIRO:

Roundtables to share learnings and to shape vision and roadmap for data interoperability and national deployment.