



# General Practice - Better access to healthcare information for you and your patients

**My Health Record** is designed to provide you with better access to healthcare information to support you in caring for your patients.

**My Health Record** is an online summary of an individual's key health information that can be shared securely between an individual and the healthcare providers involved in their care.

This year, every individual with a Medicare or Department of Veterans' Affairs card will get a My Health Record unless they tell us they don't want one.

For your patients, it means their important health information such as medical conditions, medicines, allergies and test results are kept together securely in one place.

All patients will benefit from having a digital record accessible by their treating General Practitioner. In particular, individuals with complex health conditions who see several healthcare providers, or in situations where you are not the patient's regular GP.

**The My Health Record system provides General Practitioners with a range of benefits:**

- ◆ avoiding adverse drug events
- ◆ enhancing patients self-management
- ◆ improvements in patient outcomes
- ◆ reducing the time it takes to gather patient information
- ◆ improving access to patient Advance Care Directives (or custodian details)
- ◆ avoiding the duplication of services

Healthcare information in your patient's **My Health Record** can assist with clinical decision making:

- ◆ **Validating clinical information** – you can check the patient's medical diagnoses, medicines, allergies and adverse drug reactions, as well as their immunisation history.
- ◆ **New patient visit** – when treating a patient for the first time, get an overview of their health through their shared health summary, discharge summaries and medicines information.
- ◆ **Timely access to patient information** – avoid delays which may occur in receipt of discharge summaries and other key patient information by viewing it in their My Health Record.
- ◆ **Avoid unnecessary investigations** – check the patient's My Health Record before requesting pathology or diagnostic imaging tests as it may contain recent reports you can reference.
- ◆ **Verify the patient's immunisation status** – check the patient's shared health summary and/or their Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) information.
- ◆ **Share information with other healthcare providers** – upload a shared health summary with the patient's medical diagnoses, medicines, allergies and adverse drug reactions and immunisation history, or an event summary with information about a significant clinical event.



For more information go to:

**MyHealthRecord.gov.au** | Help line 1800 723 471



## Access the My Health Record system

There are two ways through which authorised healthcare providers can access individuals' records in the My Health Record system:

### 1. Conformant software

Accessing the My Health Record system through conformant clinical software enables healthcare providers to upload, view and download information from an individual's My Health Record.

A full list of My Health Record conformant software types can be found at [www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au](http://www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au) > **For healthcare professionals > About > Who is using digital health?**

### 2. National Provider Portal

If a healthcare provider does not have access to conformant software, they can view an individual's My Health Record through the National Provider Portal at <https://portal.ehealth.gov.au>. The healthcare provider will be able to view and download information from the individual's My Health Record, but will not be able to upload any clinical information.

## Register for the My Health Record system

Visit [www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au](http://www.MyHealthRecord.gov.au) for a registration overview and step-by-step instructions on how to register, or call the Help Line on 1800 723 471 (Select option 2 for healthcare providers).

"I find it particularly useful to be able to quickly access documents containing critical pieces of health information about a patient that I would not have had access to without My Health Record."

Dr Chris Moy  
General Practitioner



## My Health Record online training

Self-paced, online training is available. It introduces the My Health Record system and outlines its features and functionalities, covering a broad range of topics such as:

- ◆ the benefits and uses of the My Health Record system across a range of healthcare settings
- ◆ the types of clinical information that may be found in a My Health Record
- ◆ how to view a My Health Record and/or download clinical information into your Clinical Information System
- ◆ how to upload clinical information into a My Health Record
- ◆ the legislation which underpins use of the My Health Record system

## Clinical software simulators

There are clinical software simulators, such as Medical Director, Best Practice, Zedmed, Communicare and Genie that allow everyone in the practice to familiarise themselves with viewing, creating and uploading clinical information to fictional patients' My Health Records.

## Guides

There are 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 > General practice to access these training resources.**

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