

Report to Coalition of National Nursing Organisations May 2013 Meeting

Subject: Attendance at the National E-Health Transition Authority, Stakeholder Product Consultation Group (SPCG) meeting on 24 April 2013.

1. The meeting was well attended with representatives from; Australian Medical Association, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, The Pharmacy Guild, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Allied Health Professionals Association, Consumer Health Forum of Australia, Health Informatics Society of Australia, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Australian Association of Practice Managers, Australian Medicare Local Alliance, Australian Private Hospitals Association, Rural Health Care Alliance, Private Healthcare Australia and the National Health Chief Information Officers (via the NHCIO Forum).
2. The Terms of Reference (attached) were discussed and the role of the SPCG was explained. An overview and update on eHealth and the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) was provided.
3. The goal of eHealth and the PCEHR was described as '*transforming the healthcare system by connecting health information to provide high quality, safe care for all Australians*'.
4. The main focus of the day was on the current usage of the PCEHR since its introduction in July 2012 and consideration how best to drive meaningful use. There were differing levels of uptake reported amongst the represented organizations. The representative from the Australian Medicare Local Alliance reported good uptake across Medicare locals and identified usage of the 'assistance portal' as a major driver.
5. The benefits of registering for a PCEHR were discussed. These included; sharing of health information across professions and locations particularly for complex-chronic conditions, ease of online access, client centred / controlled and the convenience of use.
6. Barriers to uptake were discussed. These included continued concerns regarding confidentiality, limited broadband access in rural regions, clinician versus client entered information. Reassurance was given by the NEHTA team that all these barriers had been recognized in the past and are being addressed.
7. Three key questions were asked and requested to provide feedback for the next meeting:
 - a. What is your organization doing to assist consumer registration?
 - b. What could your organization do to assist provider registration?
 - c. What message is your organization sending out about regarding PCEHR?

Action item:

National nursing organizations are requested to provide feedback on the three questions outlined in paragraph seven to Jennifer Harland by *31 July 2013*. Any other comments related to the roll-out and uptake of the PCEHR are encouraged.

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Representing the national interests of nurses in all sectors of the health profession

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The Coalition of National Nursing Organisations acknowledges the traditional owners and Elders past and present of the land on which we meet across Australia

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