



Why register for an eHealth record?

Your eHealth record will be controlled by you. It will allow you and the healthcare professionals of your choice, access to a summary of your important health information in one secure online location.

This could include potentially life-saving information such as any adverse drug reactions, or medications you are taking. Having this information in one place will help your preferred healthcare professionals make the best decisions about your care. It will also mean you won't have to remember and keep unnecessarily repeating your medical history.

Benefits for you include:

- ✔ Healthcare organisations such as a GP practice or local hospital will be able to quickly view a summary of your information, helping them to make the best possible decisions about your care
- ✔ Parents will be able to track their children's immunisation history
- ✔ Convenience — you won't have to remember every medication, test or health-related incident
- ✔ Allows rapid access to information in an emergency
- ✔ Australians living with a chronic condition will be able to manage it more effectively, regardless of age or location
- ✔ If you wish, you can nominate family members, carers, or other trusted people to view your health information

July 2012 is just the starting point for eHealth records. The system will grow — as will the benefits — as more individuals and healthcare professionals get connected.

To make Australia's health system work better for you, register for an eHealth record from 1 July 2012.

For more information or to sign up to receive regular updates visit

www.yourhealth.gov.au

or call the Helpline
1300 901 001

Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records

A QUICKER, EASIER WAY TO MANAGE YOUR HEALTHCARE INFORMATION



Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records

Connecting your healthcare records

Technology is a part of daily life for most Australians. We use it for banking, shopping, and connecting socially with family and friends.

It also has the potential to transform Australia's health system and to make it work better, safer and more efficiently. This is why the Australian Government is developing a national eHealth records system.



How is this different to the current system?

Currently, health records are mainly paper-based and are stored in different locations with little connection to each other or health providers. Your eHealth record will allow you to access a summary of your important information via one secure online portal, meaning you no longer have to remember every medication or test. Just as internet banking revolutionised the way we manage our finances, eHealth has the potential to change how we manage our healthcare.

Your health information travels with you

Your eHealth record will contain a summary of your most important healthcare events. This could include details of a stay in hospital, a visit to the GP or when you have had medical tests. And because it's accessible online, it means that if, for example, you're travelling and need to visit a new GP or hospital, your medical information will be quickly available — with your permission — to the doctor you visit; even in another town or a different state.



What are the benefits when you regularly see a doctor?

If you visit healthcare providers regularly and your medical files are being continually updated, having an eHealth record will allow your key health information (which may otherwise be held by separate healthcare organisations) to be captured in one place. You will no longer have to constantly recall important medical details each time you seek care.

Will my health information be secure?

The importance people place on their privacy and security of personal information is understood. With eHealth records, you will control your health information and determine who can view that information.

This is also why the Australian Government is developing the eHealth records system with strict security measures and regulations in place – to protect your privacy. The Government will ensure the national eHealth system is protected by existing and new legislation, including tough penalties for any breaches.