

Lead Site for Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) in Greater Western Sydney

Fact Sheet

As part of the 2010/11 Federal budget, the Australian Government announced a \$466.7 million investment over two years for a national PCEHR system for all Australians who choose to register online, from July 2012. The PCEHR will enable timely and efficient information sharing between hospitals, community health, general practitioners and consumers.

Australians who choose to utilise the PCEHR when it becomes available nationally will be able to see their important health information in one consolidated view. They will be able to share this information with trusted healthcare practitioners, who in turn will be able to access their patient's eHealth record to support the delivery of high-quality healthcare regardless of where and when it is needed.

Benefits for patients in Greater Western Sydney

The Lead Site for PCEHR in Greater Western Sydney will be released in stages as a pilot, with the following components being rolled out from now until June 2012:

- **eDischarge Summary** is the first component being delivered. Because GPs participating in the system will receive discharge letters from hospitals and community health services electronically, patients will benefit as their hospital-based care will be immediately available to their regular GP.
- **Shared Health Summaries** created by GPs will be able to be accessed by other clinicians throughout the system. Patients will benefit directly as their regular healthcare providers will be able to view components of their medical history for an individual if authorised to do so.
- **eBlue Book** is a shared health record for parents to have electronic access to information and services for their newborn child. With information being input from hospitals, midwives, community health network and GPs, the eBlue Book will be much more accessible than the existing printed book for new parents.

The Lead Site for PCEHR in Greater Western Sydney will benefit particular population groups, specifically:

- **Mothers and children** – have higher need for support services during the baby's early years.
- **The aged and people with chronic/complex diseases** – these account for 48 percent of total acute inpatient bed days – targeting the high to very high-risk patients.
- **People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups** – have higher need for information to be directly available to their healthcare providers; and
- **Aboriginal people** – require additional healthcare services because of their lower life expectancy.

Interested in Becoming a Pilot Practice?

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