



Media release

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Perth Radiological Clinic, NSW Health, and Mater Hospital announce diagnostic imaging connections to My Health Record

Diagnostic imaging is an important clinical tool because it allows earlier diagnosis, less invasive treatments, and the ability to monitor progress in patients. Thousands of Australians rely every day on x-rays, ultrasounds, MRIs and other imaging tests to help healthcare providers make a diagnosis.

Australian health consumers' access to diagnostic imaging reports will be improved following Perth Radiological Clinic (PRC), NSW Health, and the Mater Group all announcing connections to My Health Record.

PRC Chairman and radiologist Dr Martin Blake said that PRC is the first private radiology practice in Australia to send diagnostic imaging reports to the My Health Record system.

"After a successful implementation at the company's Booragoon practice in April, the remaining 19 practices will be connected by June 2018.

"PRC was established in 1948 and seventy years later we have achieved yet another first for Western Australians. Sharing information with our patients and all clinicians connected with their care is a significant step forward for the community," Dr Blake said.

eHealth NSW Chief Executive Dr Zoran Bolevich said that NSW is pleased to have reached another important milestone of sending imaging reports to My Health Record.

"This builds on the significant work we've already undertaken including the commencement of uploading pathology records. Doing so via our HealtheNet Clinical Portal is another great step forward in supporting the state's clinicians to connect patient care across primary and acute settings in NSW and nationally.

Initially patients in Western Sydney, Northern Sydney, Central Coast, and Nepean Blue Mountains local health districts will be able to see radiology reports in their My Health Record. This feature will be extended across most of the state by June," Dr Bolevich said.

Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Medical Information Officer Associate Professor Naren Gunja said that My Health Record and the HealtheNet Clinical Portal have the promise of connecting healthcare information for patients, allowing visibility across the system and improving patient safety.

"Uploading diagnostic imaging reports to the My Health Record is wonderful as it saves time for GPs who were previously ringing the radiology department to get imaging reports read out or faxed to them," Associate Professor Gunja said.

An increasing number of Queensland patients will also be able to access diagnostic reports. Mater Group CEO Dr Shane Kelly said the Mater is updating its systems to connect their pathology and diagnostic imaging practices with My Health Record.

"Our mission drives our concerted pursuit of safe and evidence-based patient care, and this important initiative demonstrates this commitment. This project is well underway and Mater aims to start uploading diagnostic reports around mid-year," Dr Kelly said.

Australian Digital Health Agency CEO Tim Kelsey said that the Agency is focused on increasing the number of diagnostic and pathology organisations connected to My Health Record.



“The Agency is encouraging all diagnostic imaging organisations in Australia to connect to My Health Record because these services are leading to increased clinical usefulness and improved health benefits for Australians,” Mr Kelsey said.

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About the Australian Digital Health Agency

The Agency is tasked with improving health outcomes for all Australians through the delivery of digital healthcare systems, and implementing *Australia’s National Digital Health Strategy – Safe, Seamless, and Secure: evolving health and care to meet the needs of modern Australia* in collaboration with partners across the community. The Agency is the System Operator of My Health Record, and provides leadership, coordination, and delivery of a collaborative and innovative approach to utilising technology to support and enhance a clinically safe and connected national health system. These improvements will give individuals more control of their health and their health information, and support healthcare providers to deliver informed healthcare through access to current clinical and treatment information. Further information: www.digitalhealth.gov.au.

About Perth Radiological Clinic

Perth Radiological Clinic is one of the largest independent Medical Imaging practices in Australia. With over 70 Radiologists and 600 staff and a sophisticated and innovative IT platform, they offer a complete and integrated range of radiological services to the people of Western Australia. Further information: www.perthradclinic.com.au.

About NSW Health

NSW Health is the major provider of health services to people in New South Wales. It comprises around 28 per cent of the NSW General Government sector budget and works to provide people in New South Wales with the best possible health care that not only meets today’s health needs but also responds to the health needs of the future.

NSW Health employs over 100,000 staff. The scope of work undertaken across the State ranges from acute hospital care to policy development, health promotion and community health initiatives.

Further information: www.health.nsw.gov.au.

About Mater Group

The Mater Group comprises a network of hospitals, health centres, a world-class medical research institute, a nationally accredited Registered Training Organisation and pathology and pharmacy businesses—all with one aim—to provide Exceptional Care. Further information: www.mater.org.au.