

eHealth: the business realities

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NEHTA's purpose



Lead the uptake of eHealth systems of national significance; and coordinate the progression and accelerate the adoption of eHealth by delivering urgently needed integration infrastructure and standards for health information

Why are we doing this?

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Australia's life expectancy is one of the highest in the world, second only to Japan

In 1996, chronic disease accounted for 80 per cent of the burden of disease, measured in terms of loss of years and quality of life

Over three million Australians, or nearly one in seven, suffer from chronic disease

Health expenditure as a proportion of Australian GDP has more than doubled over the last four and a half decades from 3.8% to 9.8%

Impact on Australians

It is estimated 5,000 Australians die each year due to adverse medical events.¹

Up to one in six (18%) medical errors are due to inadequate patient information.²

Nearly one in three (30%) unplanned hospital admissions in those over 75 years are associated with prescribing errors.³

As a nation, we are trying to improve healthcare for rural and remote areas and close the gap for indigenous Australians

1 Australian Patient Safety Foundation, www.consultmagazine.net

2 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Health 2002*, 2002

3 Chan. M, 2001, Internal Medicine Journal, Adverse drug events as a cause of hospital admission in the elderly; 31: 199-205



Impact on health professionals

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Clinicians spend around a quarter of their time collecting information rather than treating patients.⁴

ePrescription systems in Sweden, the US and Denmark increased health provider productivity per prescription by over 50%.⁵

eReferrals in Europe reduced the average time spent on referrals by 97%.⁶

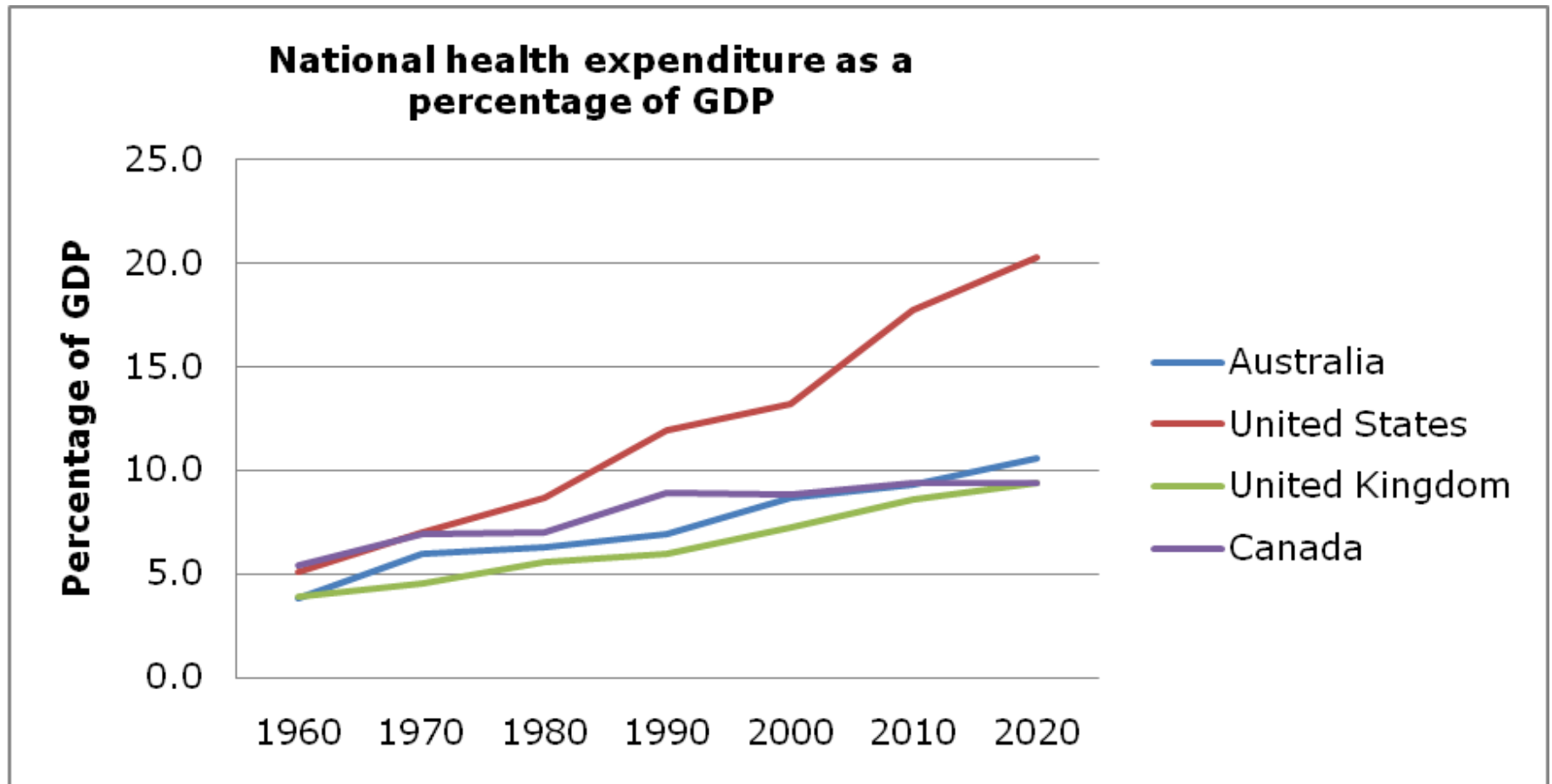
4 For Your Information, Australia Audit Commission, Canberra, 1995

5 Karl A Stroetmann KA, Jones T, Dobrev A, Stoetmann VN, 'An Evaluation of the Economic Impact of Ten European E-Health Applications', 2007

6 Ibid

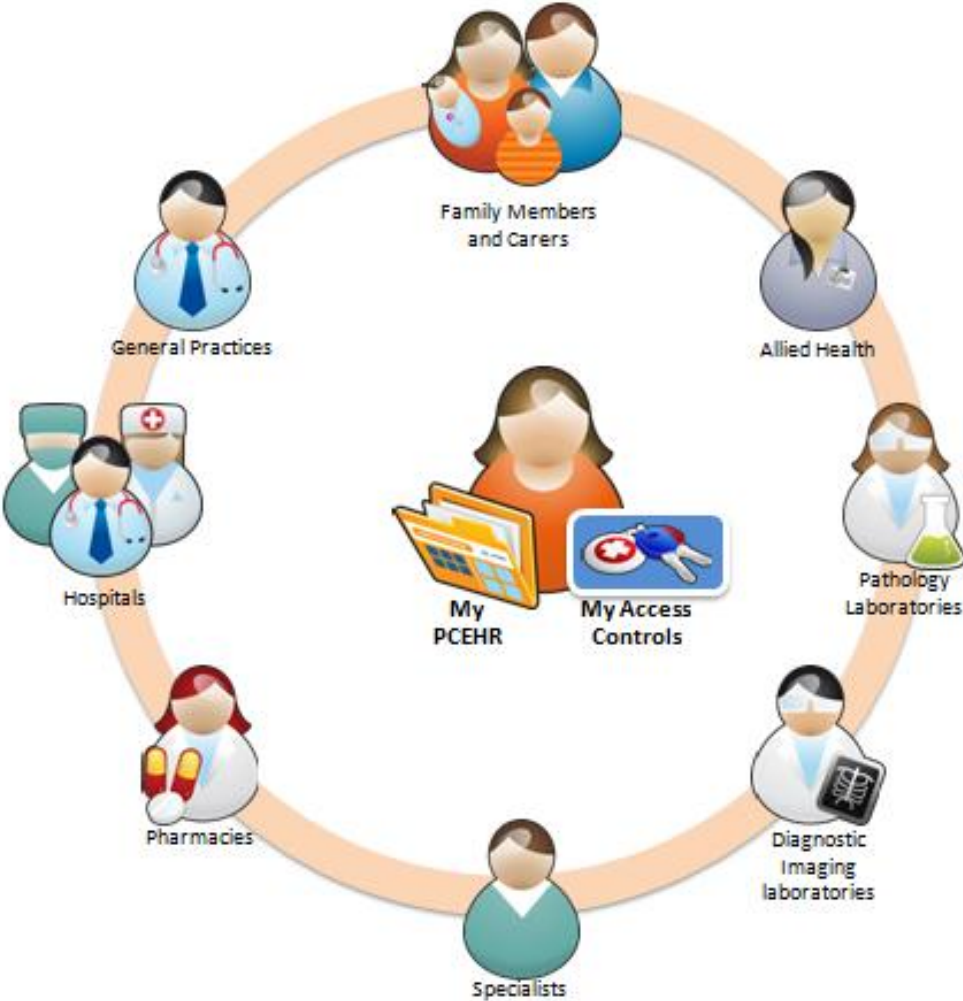
Impact on the economy

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Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record	Clinical Information	Individual Information	Shared Information	[Others]
E-Health Services	Shared Health Profile	Events Summaries	Self Managed Care	Complex Care Management
E-Health Solutions	ePathology	eDischarge	eReferral	eMedications
National Infrastructure Components	Terminology	Secure Messaging	Identifiers	Authentication

What is the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record?



Vision



- Individuals at the centre of their own healthcare
- Individuals choose whether or not to have a personally controlled electronic health record
- Individuals will have greater involvement in their care
- One of the biggest change management projects in Australia

Change drivers and support

Adoption **drivers**:

- Funding and incentives
- Legislation and policy
- Accreditation

Adoption **support**:

- Education and training
- Conformity assessment
- Communication and engagement

Activity across Australia

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- More than 1,130,000 Individual Healthcare Identifiers in use
- More than 730,000 GP patient records matched in 370 GP practices in Brisbane North, the Hunter and Melbourne East
- WA, NSW, SA, VIC, QLD and ACT are using the National Product Catalogue
- VIC has started using Australian Medicines Terminology
- NT is using Secure Messaging Delivery and ACT will use it as part of its product and inventory control system

eHealth is here: National Product Catalogue

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- Enabling standardised procurement for healthcare organisations
- Product and price data from all suppliers
- Greater efficiency and accuracy
- www.nehtasupplychain.com.au

Privacy and policy in eHealth



- Special privacy treatment for health information
- Trend to patient-centric models of health information exchange
- Complex health privacy laws: the “patchwork”
- Indemnity insurers considering medico-legal issues

What health organisations need to think about

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- Are you ready to use the Healthcare Identifiers service?
- What about data? What are your data quality practices, security protocol guidelines?
- Are you aware of the scope of the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record and how it might be used in your organisation?
- When will software vendors of your patient administration systems be upgrading your software?

Where to from here?

- Significant opportunities for healthcare organisations to improve efficiency and effectiveness through eHealth
- Immediate need to get eHealth ready, especially for the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record
- Talk to NEHTA www.nehta.gov.au

Thank you and questions...

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*All my health
info at my
fingertips*

