

Outcome statement of the Stakeholder Reference Forum

July 29 2008

Terms of reference

Members discussed the Terms of Reference for the new Forum and agreed that there would be three meetings this calendar year with this revisited for next year. Members agreed to use teleconferences for the discussion of specific topics if required.

SRF members signed non-disclosure agreements that personally bind members when the SRF discusses confidential topics such as NEHTA's finances.

Stakeholder engagement

While the SRF is a key consultation forum, it is not replacing direct stakeholder engagement. Members noted that NEHTA is committed to stakeholder consultation and will coordinate further round tables and forums as the e-health agenda progresses.

NEHTA work program

Members noted the current work program priorities are the business case for consideration by the COAG meeting in October 2008; development of the five-year plan; engagement of stakeholders.

Members noted NEHTA will be focusing on national e-health implementations in the priority areas of:

- Discharge summaries
- Pathology
- Referrals (including specialist letters and notifications)
- Medication management.

Members heard a presentation on the COAG-funded national Unique Healthcare Identifier service (UHI).

- There are three identifiers, one for providers, one for organisations and one for individuals.
- The current model relies on the ability of the consumer to provide information to the healthcare provider and that there is currently no consumer token.
- Data will be authenticated through national registration boards.

Members noted the progress to date on the COAG-funded program National Authentication Service and agreed more work was needed on authentication validation and this could be discussed at future meetings.

Members noted a presentation on achievements of Clinical Terminology, a COAG-funded program to develop national clinical terms for e-health. Members noted most States have implemented the National Product Catalogue as part of the e-health procurement strategy.

Individual Electronic Health Records (IEHR)

- Members were briefed on the structure of the IEHR
- Members noted that the business case for COAG funding had been the subject of consultation earlier this year at consumer and clinician round tables
- The SRF stressed that the benefits case should be based on improvements to safety and quality of healthcare
- Members supported the submission of the business case to the October COAG meeting

Outcome Statements will be provided after each meeting, so that participating organisations can distribute them widely to their constituents. The Outcome Statement will also appear on the NEHTA website at www.nehta.gov.au. For further information please contact NEHTA on (02) 8298 2600