

Outcome statement of the Stakeholder Reference Forum

September 24, 2008

New Chief Executive for NEHTA and confirmation of work program

Interim Chief Executive Andrew Howard introduced newly appointed NEHTA Chief Executive Peter Fleming and the current work program priorities were outlined.

Members discussed time lines and funding around the key program areas:

- Implementation focus
- Facilitated adoption
- Engaging and enabling early adopters
- Foundation services for e-health interoperability and connectivity enabled
- Individual Electronic Health Record (IEHR)

It was noted that software vendors who want to interact with the work program through the vendor platform should speak with NEHTA regarding accreditation.

E-health policy and legislative matters

Members heard an update on e-health policy from the eHealth branch of the Department of Health and Ageing (DOHA).

Planning around the e-health strategy and work in the regulatory space was continuing. The Department was also awaiting outcomes from COAG consideration of e-health.

NEHTA Reference Platform

Members were given a demonstration of the Reference Platform which is a working model of various aspects of NEHTA work. The demonstration showed how a person would be allocated a unique health identifier.

Members were told the reference platform is used to:

- Validate NEHTA specifications,
- Show how e-health services will work such as unique health identification, service locator and authentication
- Demonstrate packages such as pathology and discharge summary at this stage.
- Seek health community advice in implementing NEHTA specifications

It was noted that SRF members will be asked to have input on future design and operating models.

Individual Electronic Health Record (IEHR) Privacy Blueprint

Members were told NEHTA released an IEHR Privacy Blueprint for public consultation purposes on July 3, 2008. It was distributed to a range of key stakeholders and also published on NEHTA's website.

Thirty seven submissions were received (six of which were confidential).

With a few exceptions, the majority response from the submissions was one of support for a national approach to an Individual Electronic Health Record (IEHR). It was noted for the purposes of consultation the document was based on a theoretical centralised model.

Members heard that the final consultation report and the non-confidential submissions would be published shortly on the NEHTA web site.

It was agreed members would form a sub-committee to discuss privacy issues and report back to the full forum as appropriate.

Individual Electronic Health Record workshop

Members were joined in the Forum by representatives from Deloitte who were close to finalising the national e-health strategy. Members heard a high level overview from Deloitte which touched on governance and the roadmap and how an Individual Electronic Health Record fits into the overall strategy.

Aged care approach

It was noted that the Aged Care Association proposes to leverage NEHTA's work in the aged care sector and to take a national industry approach to support the e-health agenda.

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