

MEDIA RELEASE

My Health Record experts travel to South West WA

Friday 21 September 2018

My Health Record experts will be visiting Augusta, Margaret River, Dunsborough, South Bunbury, Bunbury, Dardanup, Busselton, Manjimup, Greenbushes, Nannup, Boyup Brook and Australind to inform the community about the benefits of My Health Record, and how to opt-out, if they wish.

The free events provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions about My Health Record and how it can assist with managing their health records and those of their children.

WA Primary Health Alliance Country WA PHN acting manager, Jodie Green, said My Health Record will contribute to better patient outcomes and improved patient care.

“Working across the health sector, we see the need for more efficient information sharing. That is one of the significant benefits of My Health Record as it will connect the different health providers through one system and give people more insight and control of their own health information,” Ms Green said.

“Having a My Health Record has many advantages and it is easily accessible to authorised doctors, specialists, hospitals, and allied health professionals.

“It will be much more convenient, not having to remember and repeat your medical history, including chronic conditions and medications, as all this information can be uploaded to the My Health Record by healthcare providers.

“When medical emergencies arise when travelling from a regional area to the city or interstate, a hospital can quickly access the person’s My Health Record, review their health summary and treat them appropriately, something that currently is not available,” Ms Green said.

My Health Record is easily accessible to authorised doctors, specialists, hospitals, and allied health professionals such as pharmacists such as David Williams from Busselton Friendlies Pharmacy.

Mr Williams said pharmacy staff are using My Health Record to assist with timely dispensing prescriptions and making sure people get the right medications at the right time.

Another significant benefit of My Health Record is not having to remember and repeat your medical history, including chronic conditions and medications, as all this information can be uploaded to the My Health Record by healthcare providers.

Manjimup resident Ranui Harris and manager of the Manjimup Community Resource Centre said My Health Record gives Australians an opportunity to self-manage their health-care.

“It provides people with the power to see what is going on with their own health, it gets them involved and engaged. People should embrace it,” Ms Harris said.

By the end of 2018, every Australian will have a digital My Health Record, unless they actively choose not to have one.

Having a My Health Record means that a summary of a person's important health information like allergies, current conditions and treatments, medication details, pathology reports or diagnostic imaging reports can be digitally stored in one place.

To find an information session in your area, follow the My Health Record Facebook page www.facebook.com/MyHealthRec/ or visit www.wapha.org.au/events/

More information on My Health Record can be found at www.myhealthrecord.gov.au
People who do not want a My Health Record can opt out by visiting the My Health Record website or by calling 1800 723 471 for phone-based assistance. Additional support is available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, people from non-English speaking backgrounds, people with limited digital literacy, and those living in rural and remote regions.

Event details:

My Health Record Community Information Sessions in South West WA

3 October:

- Augusta, Community Resource Centre, 3-4pm

4 October:

- Margaret River, Community Resource Centre, 9.30-10.30am
- Dunsborough, Naturaliste Community Centre, 2-3pm

5 October:

- South Bunbury, Wither Community Library, 9.30-10.30am
- Bunbury, Bunbury City & Regional Library, 2-3pm

6 October:

- Dardanup, Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival, all day

8 October:

- Busselton, Community Resource Centre, 9.30-10.30am
- Manjimup, Community Resource Centre, 2-3pm

9 October:

- Greenbushes, Community Resource Centre, 9.30-10.30am
- Nannup, Community Resource Centre, 11.30-12.30pm
- Boyup Brook, Community Resource Centre, 2-3pm

10 October:

- Australind, Australind Public Library, 2-3pm

For more information:

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About WA Primary Health Alliance: WA Primary Health Alliance oversees the strategic commissioning functions of the Perth North, Perth South and Country WA Primary Health Networks (PHNs). The WA PHNs are three of 31 PHNs established by the Australian Government nationally to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for the community. We work across the WA healthcare system with doctors, allied health professionals, Area Health Services and service providers to improve the coordination of care for people who are at risk of poor health outcomes. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au