

## WHY IS THIS A HEALTH PRIORITY?

### Digital health

is about electronically connecting up the points of care so that health information can be shared securely.

**It is an important step in helping to deliver safer, better quality healthcare by ensuring key health information is available whenever it's needed.**

Health information and high quality data can be exchanged securely and there is better access to prescriptions and medicines information, assisting with the transition of care for patients between their treating doctors and pharmacists.

## WHAT HAS THE DATA TOLD US?



**My Health Record registration within general practice is at 86% of all practices in the ACT, 51% of community pharmacies and 19% of Residential Aged Care Facilities** (ACT PHN, 2018).



The adoption of secure messaging services to securely send and receive clinical information has been adopted by the majority of general practices (ACT PHN, 2018).

## WHAT ISSUES HAVE WE IDENTIFIED?

Consultations within the ACT healthcare provider and consumer community told us there is:



**A perceived lack of awareness and skills in the use of technology to enable safe and streamlined communication of clinical information.**



**A lack of awareness and skills to use technology as a tool to support one's own health.**

## WHAT HAVE STAKEHOLDERS TOLD US?



GPs primarily use secure messaging to receive information but do not utilise the sending capability.



**There are a number of barriers to accessing My Health Record for people who do not know how or do not have ready access to the internet.** These people include older persons, people with disabilities, homeless and some people in the CALD communities.

## TARGET OUTCOMES



The use of digital health will continue to play a significant role in healthcare so it is important that **healthcare providers are aware of digital health systems and technologies.**



It is also important the healthcare providers **use the systems to improve patient care and communication.**



Consumers and their carers/families need to be **empowered and supported to utilise digital health technologies** for positive health outcomes.

### References

- ACT PHN. (2018). ACT Needs Assessment. Canberra: Capital Health Network.
- ACT PHN. (2018). Digital Health: Provider engagement report for 2018. ACT: Capital Health Network