Be prepared for the expansion of My Health Record in 2018

**What is My Health Record?**
My Health Record is a secure online summary of an individual's key health information such as medical history, medications, allergies, adverse reactions, immunisations, discharge summaries, and test and scan results.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, it means their important health information is kept together in one place that is accessible anytime by their authorised healthcare providers, including in a medical emergency.

**Who gets a record?**
Currently, more than 1 in 5 Australians have a My Health Record. Later this year, the program will be expanded to an ‘opt-out’ model, whereby every Australian will have a My Health Record created for them unless they choose not to have one.

A three month opt-out period will be held to give all Australians the opportunity to express their preference not to have a My Health Record created, with specific strategies implemented to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Once the period starts, if an individual wants to opt-out they can visit [www.myhealthrecord.gov.au](http://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au) call 1800 723 471 or visit their local Aboriginal health service. Noting they will only be able to register their decision during the designated opt-out period.

**What will My Health Record mean for general practice, primary health care and professionals?**
As more people use My Health Record and information in the system grows, it will help support clinical decision making, decrease search time for relevant information and improve continuity of care.

Clinical leadership is essential in the transformation of healthcare. Australia has a momentous opportunity to create the digital health infrastructure that will produce benefits long into the future.

**How do I find out more?**
In the coming months you will hear more about My Health Record and the expansion program that will see every Australian receive a My Health Record, unless they choose not to have one.

In the meantime, NACCHO affiliates and member organisations can visit [www.myhealthrecord.gov.au](http://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au) to find out more, including the benefits of My Health Record and how to:

- Register
- Access training and resources
- Upload and view information
- Support your patients

2018 is the year that we will all be able to join the ‘digital health’ movement and play our role in supporting all Australians through better access to information.