



**Playgroup
Australia**

Media release

17 July 2018

Playgroup Australia Supports My Health Record

Playgroup Australia is to partner with the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) to provide information for members and stakeholders about the My Health Record Expansion Program.

The partnership aims to provide information about My Health Record and its benefits for all Australians, and to advise those who choose not to have one how to opt out of the process.

By the end of 2018, the Agency will have a digitised My Health Record for all Australians except those who opt out. Doctors, pharmacists and authorised healthcare providers will be able to access a person's My Health Record to assist in their treatment of patients and issues such as prescription of medicines and advance care planning.

Playgroup Australia will communicate the benefits of My Health Record to its national stakeholder base and our State & Territory member organisations. These benefits of the My Health Record Expansion Program include reduced hospital admissions, reduced duplication of tests, better-coordinated care, and better informed treatment decisions.

Playgroup Australia Chair, Taylor Tran, said "Playgroups are a unique social forum where parents/carers can discuss and learn about the best options for their family. The My Health Record Expansion Program is an initiative designed to better use health data to achieve for effective outcomes for Australian families.

"Playgroup Australia is pleased to have the opportunity to present information to families so that they are well placed to make an informed choice regarding their participation on the My Health Record Expansion Program" Mr Tran said.

Agency CEO Tim Kelsey said that the benefits of digital health for patients are significant and compelling.

"Having a My Health Record means that your important health information such as allergies, current conditions and treatments, medicine details, and pathology and diagnostic imaging reports can be digitally stored in one place.

"My Health Record also places Australians in control of their healthcare and gives authorised healthcare providers secure digital access to key health information at the point of care, wherever that may be," Mr Kelsey said.

People who choose not to have a My Health Record will be able to register not to have one during a three-month opt-out period occurring between **16 July and 15 October**.

For further information on My Health Record go to www.myhealthrecord.gov.au.

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