



Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Secretary, Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Ms Radcliffe,

Correction of evidence to 2019–2020 Estimates Hearing—23 October 2019

I am writing to correct evidence I provided to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee during its examination of the Department of Health and Portfolio Agencies in the 2019–2020 Estimates hearing on 23 October 2019.

In answering a question from Senator Griff, I provided figures on the number of systems connected to the My Health Record system. I am now aware that the figures I provided were incorrect. These statements are in Hansard, Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates, 23 October 2019 as below:

Ms McMahon: I can provide some statistics on hospital connections. We currently have 616 public hospitals and health services across the country connected to the My Health Record and 216 private hospitals and clinics also connected. (p80, underline added)

I am now aware that there were 526 public hospitals and 206 private hospitals connected at the time.

In answering a question from Senator Roberts, I provided figures on the number of specialist organisations connected to the My Health Record system. Again, I am now aware the figures I provided were incorrect.

Ms McMahon: When we appeared before this committee in February we reported at that point that in addition to the public health system, because of course specialists do work in public hospitals and private hospitals and access the record that way, we had 271 medical specialist organisations in February who were directly connected. That's increased 185 per cent since our last appearance; so we now have 742 medical specialist organisations. (p87, underline added)

I am now aware that there were 731 medical specialist organisations connected at the time, which is an increase of 170 per cent since the last appearance.

I apologise for this error and trust this clarification provides a more correct picture of this issue. I would be happy to speak with any members of the Committee if required.

Yours sincerely,

Bettina McMahon
Acting Chief Executive Officer

28 February 2020