

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012**

**Question: E12-358**

**OUTCOME 10:** Health System Capacity and Quality

**Topic:** eHealth

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 2

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

During the October estimates hearing Ms Huxtable: said that so far, 13,340 people had registered for a PCEHR while departmental predictions were 500,000 registrations in the first full year of operation. When asked about this huge discrepancy between projected and actual, Departmental Secretary Ms Jane Halton made this remark;

"Literally, day on day-we get the numbers everyday of how many people have registered-I open it and think, 'Goodness me'. People really want this. It is amazing."

- a) How could such buoyant optimism possibly be justified by the miniscule registrations so far?
- b) How many distinct clinical discharge summaries, and shared health summaries have been uploaded?
- c) How many documents have been downloaded?
- d) What has been the average number of patient PCEHR users per day over the last month?
- e) How many vendors have completed NOC and CCA for the PCEHR B2B interface?
- f) How many providers have completed registration for PCEHR including signing the provider agreement?

**Answer:**

- a) It is expected that take up rates for the personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR) system will increase in line with the progressive rollout. The implementation of the Northern Territory ehealth record demonstrates that as that system matured and the benefits were realised, the take up rates grew substantially.
- b) As at 12 November 2012, sixteen Shared Health Summaries had been uploaded to the personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR) system. These summaries were uploaded from pilot sites ahead of the planned rollout of clinical software to connect providers to the PCEHR system. [NOTE - this is the same as E12-280]
- c) As at 22 November 2012 there were 48,335 documents downloaded from the PCEHR system.

- d) In the month to 22 November 2012 consumers accessed the PCEHR system an average 306 times a day.
- e) As at 22 November 2012 five vendors had completed Notice of Connection (NOC) and Conformance, Compliance and Accreditation (CCA) for a range of PCEHR transactions through the Business to Business (B2B) interface.
- f) As at 22 November 2012, 275 provider organisations had completed registration for the PCEHR system, including signing the provider agreement.