Digital Health Update
April 2021

The Importance of the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

During this unprecedented time of the Phase 1B COVID-19 Rollout in General Practices coupled with the flu vaccine season upon you all; it is vitally important to embrace the Australian Immunisation Register as the source of truth for your patients' immunisation history.

Noting that there are practices in our region that will not be a part of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and your patients may go to an alternate vaccine clinic for the vaccine, such as the General Practice Respiratory Clinics. Pharmacy will be participating in Phase 2A of the rollout and are currently advertising the availability of flu vaccines.

Reporting vaccinations to the Australian Immunisation Register is mandatory for vaccine providers (including pharmacists) and as such will assist you in the management of your patients' vaccines.

In the coming months the Australian Digital Health Agency will be releasing an enhanced immunisation view for My Health Record for clinical software. This Immunisation view will clearly display your patients immunisation history as populated directly from the Australian Immunisation Register.

Should you require any assistance in accessing AIR, please contact the Digital Health Team for support.

Uploading Shared Health Summary to My Health Record

Now is the time to ensure Shared Health Summary reports are uploaded to a patients' My Health Record during Phase 1b vaccinations. Giving visibility to all clinicians of a patient's current health summary during vaccination rollout will go a long way to improving clinical decision making and avoid any unnecessary duplication.

Ensure proper PRODA Delegation is set up before rolling out vaccinations. Medicare providers (GPs) can now access Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) with their Provider Digital Access (PRODA) account through Health Professional Online Services (HPOS). Nurses need to be a "Delegate" of a GP to have access to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR), among other delegation functions.

Contact the Digital Health Team to access a step-by-step guide on how to update delegation in PRODA.

NASH PKI Certificate Renewals

Please log into your PRODA and HPOS account and check on the status of your NASH PKI certificate renewal dates. There are many Practices in WNSW PHN who have expired certificates or are due to expire in the coming weeks or months. It's essential renewed NASH PKI certificates are in place so you can keep using My Health Record, Secure Messaging and Electronic Prescribing.

Remember to update your CIS and Secure Messaging software with the new NASH PKI. Contact the Digital Health Team to access a step-by-step guide on how to make the update.

Electronic Prescribing

Over 90% of pharmacies across the Western NSW Region are now ready to dispense token eScripts. Please contact the Digital Health team for the latest list of Pharmacies in your area who are ready to dispense token eScripts.

To prescribe electronically, remember to update your CIS to the latest version and turn on the functionality to electronically prescribe medications.

You'll also need to ensure all GPs are registered with a Prescription Delivery Service (PDS), such as eRx or MediSecure, and you've confirmed the PDS registration with your CIS.

Your Local Digital Health Team

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