My Health Record for clinical immunology/allergy specialists

What's in it for you and your patients?

My Health Record is designed to provide you with better access to healthcare information to support you in caring for your patients.

Having access to a secure online summary of a patient's health information, including pathology reports, prescribed medications and other patient health information, can save time and potentially reduce unnecessary duplication of diagnostic services.

Patients with allergic disease often undergo allergy testing, including blood tests for allergen-specific IgE, skin testing, food allergen challenges and drug (medication) challenges.

You can use a conformant clinical information system (such as Genie) to upload your specialist letter to your patient's My Health Record. This allows the sharing of a patient's allergy status and management plan with other members of the patient's healthcare team, including their GP, and dietitian. This is an important step for patient safety – particularly for food allergy that currently affects up to 10% of infants and 2-4% of adults in Australia[1], and drug allergy – to enable safe prescribing.

In December 2019:

- Around 90% of general practices and pharmacies were connected to My Health Record, with over 70% uploading or viewing documents.
- 94% of public hospital beds are now connected.
- Over one million pathology and diagnostic imaging reports were uploaded to My Health Record.

Benefits for clinical immunology/allergy specialists

My Health Record can provide you, your staff, and other members of the patient's healthcare team with better access to health information including:

- GP-created shared health summaries listing medicines, allergies, other adverse reactions, immunisations and key diagnoses.
- Pathology and radiology test results (e.g. allergen-specific IgE blood tests).

- Prescription and dispense records (e.g. when the patient last filled an EpiPen® prescription, prescription of eczema steroids and asthma inhalers).
- Hospital discharge summaries (e.g. anaphylaxis event/s).

Currently, allergy and other adverse reactions information can be found in:

Shared health summaries (general practices)	Event summaries (all healthcare providers)	Discharge summaries (hospitals)	Pharmacist Shared Medicines List	Personal health summary (entered by the patient)

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[1]Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA), Food Allergy (2019)

My Health Record can improve care coordination and continuity of patient care by:

- Providing a shared platform for patients and healthcare professionals to access information about a patient's allergies, other adverse reactions, and any associated action, management or treatment plans.
- Capturing e-referrals and specialist letters.

Clinical immunology/allergy specialists can use My Health Record to:

- Upload a specialist letter with details about your patient's consultation, test results, allergy status, commencement of allergen immunotherapy or other treatments and events.
- Review medications and EpiPen® prescriptions.
- Review hospital discharge summaries for anaphylaxis events.
- Review other health conditions.
- Access specialist letters (useful for conditions where other specialists e.g. ENT, gastroenterologist, are involved).
- Review information from other healthcare providers such as allied health professionals.

Safety and security of patient information

The Australian Digital Health Agency has many safeguards in place to protect the information held in the system such as strong encryption, firewalls, secure login/authentication mechanisms and audit logging.

By default, documents in My Health Record are set to 'general access' so healthcare professionals can upload clinical documents and view information in relation to a healthcare consultation or clinical event. These default settings are controlled by the patient and can be changed at any time.

Examples of when clinical immunology/allergy specialists can use My Health Record for their patients

Event summaries from other specialists

Shared health summary information

Prescription and dispense records

Hospital discharge summary

Information from allied health professionals

Immunisation information

Pathology results

Patient entered information (allergies/adverse reactions)

Further information and training

Visit the My Health Record website for more information on how you can view or contribute to your patient's My Health Record:

- My Health Record website
- Upload clinical information

- View a My Health Record
- Clinical information software simulators and demonstrations

Training and related resources are available through the My Health Record webinars page or your PHN.

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australasian society of clinical immunology and allergy