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SHQ's position on My Health Record

My Health Record is an online summary of your health information. It brings together health information from your healthcare providers and Medicare, and allows people involved in your care to upload, view and share documents (with your consent).

Every Australian who doesn't choose to opt out before January 31st 2019 will have a My Health Record created by the Australian Government.

When it comes to accessing SHQ services, we know confidentiality is of high importance to many people. For us, there are still questions that need to be answered regarding how sensitive information will be dealt with by My Health Record. We are especially concerned with regard to marginalised and at-risk people, including young people. Until we are certain confidentiality will be maintained, SHQ will not register with My Health Record as an organisation.

The decision to load sexual and reproductive health information is a personal one. There may be occasions where people find it beneficial to upload information, such as when they have a contraceptive implant or intrauterine device inserted. More information about how to do this yourself is available here <https://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au/for-you-your-family/howtos/add-personal-health-information>

MBS and PBS claims are automatically loaded to My Health Record. This means that despite SHQ's commitment to maintaining confidentiality, prescriptions, Medicare item numbers, pathology and radiology tests may be uploaded automatically by other organisations. While we cannot prevent this happening, we will take every opportunity to remind clients they can hide this information if they choose. Please see this link to find out more <https://www.myhealthrecord.gov.au/for-you-your-family/howtos/remove-information>

We encourage clients accessing other healthcare services to be clear around what they consent to being uploaded to My Health Record.

Make sure you have all the facts so you can make an informed decision about whether My Health Record is the right system for your healthcare needs.

If you have any questions we will do our best to answer them, or to direct you to someone who can.

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