

10 SEP 2014

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Mr David Nicholas
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Ref: OIA H201403313:

Dear Mr Nicholas

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information, received by the Ministry of Health on 13 August 2014. Your email outlined four questions in relation to the ability of District Health Boards and Doctors Practices to provide patient portals. Please find responses to your questions outlined below, noting that the information relates to patient portals only.

1. You requested summary reports on trials carried out on the implementation of patient portals:

Private GP Practices have led the implementation on an incremental basis rather than running trials and therefore formal evaluations and resulting reports by the Ministry have not been undertaken. I am therefore refusing this part of your request for summary reports on trials carried out on the implementation of patient portals under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the summary reports do not exist.

2. How many DHBs or doctor practices allow access to patient records by that patient?

Eighty (80) general practices allow access to patient records.

3. When will the whole of New Zealand be able to view portals online via the internet?

General practices are private businesses and it is up to each GP to decide when they will introduce a patient portal.

4. What has been the cost to date of rolling out patient electronic records?

The Ministry does not hold this information. We are aware the cost of the software ranges from \$1,500.00 to \$4,500.00 depending on the size of the practice and what the vendor charges. There are 1080 practices in New Zealand.

Thank you for your request. The information above relates to patient portal implementation in New Zealand.

If you have any queries about the information provided please contact Graeme Osborne at graeme_osborne@moh.govt.nz. You also have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decisions.

Yours sincerely



Michael Hundleby
Acting National Director
National Health Board
Ministry of Health