



Australian Government

Australian Digital Health Agency

Communiqué

Australian Digital Health Standards Advisory Group

Held via Microsoft Teams

From 1pm (AEST) on 28 July 2025

The seventh meeting of the Australian Digital Health Standards Advisory Group was held on 28 July 2025. The meeting was chaired by Ryan Mavin, Branch Manager Informatics and Standards (Australian Digital Health Agency) following Professor Wendy Chapman's resignation as Chair. Ryan acknowledged Professor Chapman's significant contribution as the inaugural chair of the Standards Advisory Group and as member of the Council for Connected Care and wished her the best for her new role overseas.

The Standards Advisory Group (SAG) received an update on the two most recent meetings of the Council for Connected Care held in February and June 2025, where the meetings focused on the needs of Australians experiencing health disadvantage and the healthcare needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and those living in rural and remote communities. Both meetings highlighted the need for human-centred design in digital solutions and the importance of culturally appropriate care to improve health equity and the role that digital health can play in improving health outcomes. The [Quarter 3 Progress Report](#) for the National Healthcare Interoperability Plan was also tabled for review with a further four actions completed during the quarter.

Updates were provided on work underway across the Digital Health Standards Program with a focus on a Draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Digital Health Standards. The Strategy shares a unified and nationally coordinated approach to the adoption, implementation, development and use of national digital health standards. A multi-year roadmap, to be published alongside the Strategy, captures the foundational actions required to support interoperability through products and services across national digital health infrastructure and shares a phased approach for advancing digital health standards. Members have been invited to review the proposed strategy and roadmap documents as part of a broad consultation process.

Members received an overview of a joint initiative between the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and the Agency to digitise part of the Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP) which aims to improve health outcomes for people with intellectual disability. The preferred solution uses FHIR Structured Data Capture within a SMART on FHIR app, enabling integration with GP Clinical Information Systems (CIS) and future scalability for other smart forms.



Members were provided with an overview of the Agency's ongoing work to curate use-cases within the National Digital Health Standards Catalogue and were invited to provide feedback on the user stories and wireframes developed to support this initiative. These artefacts illustrate how stakeholder needs will be met through the Catalogue's curation layer, which aims to enhance usability by grouping standards into meaningful use-cases. The Agency is currently developing and refining the methodology and data structure to ensure the long-term scalability and relevance of this work.

Updates on the Digital Health Procurement Guidelines (The Guidelines) have been published on the Agency's website for wider sector consultation including jurisdictions, providers, peak bodies and key stakeholders. Consultation commenced in July and will continue until August 31, 2025. The initial Guidelines encompass general planning considerations, sections on national requirements, a set of 25 comprehensive digital healthcare systems and technologies requirements, along with documentation to support evaluation and requirements gathering activities related to procurement. These Guidelines have been developed based on stakeholders' input and aim to support alignment and promote widespread consistency in digital health investment enabling technology solutions that deliver greater consistency and capability, ultimately benefiting patients, consumers and healthcare providers.

Finally, Members were provided with an overview of the findings from the Standards Adoption Training Needs Analysis conducted between April and June 2025, which identified key skill gaps and barriers to implementing digital health standards across Australia's healthcare workforce. The report highlights strong demand for FHIR® and SNOMED training, the need for executive-level awareness, and tailored approaches for different sectors. These insights are guiding the Agency's development of new training programs through the Standards Academy, including updated FHIR courses and future certification pathways, to support better adoption and use of digital health standards nationwide.