



Australian Government

Australian Digital Health Agency

Media release

20 May 2026

## Standards framework for digital health a clear path to connected care

In a significant milestone in the evolution of connected care, the [National Framework for Digital Health Standards](#) has been published to support a more consistent, connected and clinically safe digital health system.

Agency Chief Executive Officer Amanda Cattermole PSM said the *National Framework for Digital Health Standards* provides a foundation for innovation and supports the seamless integration of digital tools into all the healthcare settings that Australians rely on.

“Different organisations have developed and applied standards in isolation, with limited coordination to fit those pieces together across the system,” Ms Cattermole said.

“The *National Framework for Digital Health Standards* provides clear, practical guidance and aligns governance, standards development and implementation across government agencies, jurisdictions, health services, partners and industry.”

Launching the framework at the Digital Health Festival, Agency Chief Digital Officer Peter O’Halloran said the need for nationally aligned standards is growing as digital health adoption accelerates.

“As pathology and diagnostic imaging reports are increasingly shared to My Health Record ahead of the 1 July mandate, the number of times Australians have viewed this information has grown significantly - by 112% (from 54 million to 114 million) and 72% (6.5 million to 11.2 million), respectively, over the past year,” Mr O’Halloran said.

“As mandatory sharing expands to more key health information, scalable and conformant national digital infrastructure becomes critical to safe, reliable information sharing across the health system.

“Conformance built on consistent standards gives Australians confidence that digital health systems can work together as intended, and that the information healthcare providers rely on is timely, accurate, secure and clinically safe.

“The adoption of globally consistent clinical terminology is a key foundation for the safe and appropriate use of artificial intelligence in healthcare.”

To drive use of the framework across the Australian health ecosystem, the Agency supports key health standards development organisations in Australia and internationally.

The Agency has also established the [Standards Academy](#) to provide free training to help clinicians, developers, policymakers, researchers and industry apply digital health standards in practice. The

Standards Academy helps build capability in the consistent adoption and implementation of key standards, including SNOMED CT, GS1 and FHIR®.

View more information about the [Standards Academy](#).

Download the [National Framework for Digital Health Standards](#).

**-ENDS-**

#### **Media contact**

Email: [media@digitalhealth.gov.au](mailto:media@digitalhealth.gov.au)

#### **About the Australian Digital Health Agency**

When it comes to improving the health of all Australians, the role of digital innovation and connection is a vital part of a modern, accessible healthcare system.

Better patient healthcare and health outcomes are possible when you have a health infrastructure that can be safely accessed, easily used and responsibly shared.

To achieve this, the [National Digital Health Strategy](#) is establishing the foundations for a sustainable health system that constantly improves. It underpins and coordinates work that is already happening between governments, healthcare providers, consumers, innovators and the technology industry.

For further information: [digitalhealth.gov.au](http://digitalhealth.gov.au)

*The Australian Digital Health Agency is jointly funded by the Australian Government and all state and territory governments.*