

# Australia - Health IT Resources

Following is a list of websites that may be of interest for companies considering the Australian health IT market.

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## General

### National E-Health Transition Authority

[www.nehta.gov.au](http://www.nehta.gov.au)

#### National E-Health Strategy

[http://www.nehta.gov.au/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_details&gid=626&Itemid=139&catid=-2/](http://www.nehta.gov.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_details&gid=626&Itemid=139&catid=-2/)

#### Standards Catalogue

<http://www.nehta.gov.au/standards-catalogue>

The National E-Health Standards Catalogue (Standards Catalogue) consists of a collection of standards and specifications that are essential guidance for those who develop, sell, support, buy and implement e-health software in Australia. The catalogue provides a list of the standards recommended by, and specifications sourced or developed by, NEHTA, and is updated regularly.

#### Healthcare Identifiers Service

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/pacd-ehealth-consultation>

The Healthcare Identifiers Service (HI Service) is being developed as a foundation service for e-health initiatives in Australia.

The healthcare identifiers project is a Council of Australian Governments (COAG) initiative and is being developed through the National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA).

An IHI is a unique 16 digit number that will be assigned to each Australian resident and others seeking healthcare in Australia. The number will be used in health information records alongside the person's name and date of birth.

All healthcare providers will be permitted to use the IHI as a unique reference number to manage and communicate patient health information as part of delivering healthcare services to their patients.

Healthcare providers and organisations will also be identified with a unique number.

These identifiers are referred to as:

- Healthcare Provider Identifiers – Individual (HPI-I) for healthcare professionals and other health personnel involved in patient care, and
- Healthcare Provider Identifiers – Organisation (HPI-O) that will identify the organisation (such as the hospital or health clinic) where care is provided.

It is planned to have the IHIs allocated from mid 2010. HPI-Is and HPI-Os will also be allocated from mid 2010 through a phased approach.

## **Department of Health and Ageing**

[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

Health reform reports:

<http://www.yourhealth.gov.au/internet/yourhealth/publishing.nsf/content/home>

## **The Australian e-Health Research Centre (AEHRC)**

<http://aehrc.com>

Established in 2003 as a joint venture between CSIRO and the Queensland Government, the Australian e-Health Research Centre is a leading national research facility in ICT for healthcare innovations. The Centre and its research program integrates technologies and expertise from across the CSIRO ICT Centre, covering information acquisition (sensor devices and networks, human factors), information analysis (image and multimedia processing, presentation and visualisation, pattern recognition), and information management (data integration, information retrieval, processing). The largest single-funded e-health R&D facility in the Southern Hemisphere, the Centre comprises a multi-disciplinary team of researchers and engineers dedicated to excellence in research and health services.

## **Centre for Health Innovation**

[www.healthinnovation.com.au](http://www.healthinnovation.com.au)

The Centre for Health Innovation (the CHI) was set up in May 2007 as a joint initiative of Bayside Health, La Trobe University, Monash University and Baker Heart Research Institute.

The CHI is unique in Australia on three counts:

- It offers a highly configurable, fully equipped simulation environment, in which health products and technologies can be used in close-to-real-life circumstances, with full observation and recording facilities, without any distractions or risk to patients;
- It provides a sophisticated IT environment on which software products can be hosted, configurable to almost any combination of server and network capability to be found in today's hospitals;
- It welcomes relationships with businesses providing health care technology products and services, and actively offers health system purchasers the opportunity to evaluate and compare them in lifelike situations.

The CHI is based at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne, but plans to expand to New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia. The Centres will be fully networked, so that a demonstration product can be used simultaneously at all locations.

It represents a channel for marketing into Australia (and, to some extent, into Asia) whose value to NZ companies will depend upon how it fits their marketing strategy, and the extent to which they can leverage the opportunities it offers.

The CHI is visited by large numbers of health professionals of all disciplines. While many of these visitors are there to engage in training, about 30% come specifically to survey technology; and many more may be incidentally exposed to a range of products. From April 2007 to March 2009 visitor numbers were:

- 13,000 in total, comprising approximately
  - 3600 technical visitors,
  - 4100 Undergraduates and
  - 5400 Postgraduate clinicians on courses.

There are two principal ways in which the CHI can be of value to NZ vendors:

- Often, the full benefit of Medtech equipment can only be realised when it is integrated with appropriate IT systems – for example, an automated pharmacy dispensing cabinet's value is best shown when it is coupled with prescribing, administering and pharmacy software. The CHI will help a Medtech vendor identify IT partners, and can host a fully integrated suite of software and equipment in the simulation environments that allow a full and detailed exploration of functionality.
- For products that can stand alone, the CHI offers a fully-prepared clinical environment into which prospects can be invited without having to organise installation on their site, or to interrupt any of the prospect's staff. Introducing the prospect to the product in this way can make simpler and cheaper to qualify opportunities and arrange better-prepared on-site demonstrations.

Vendors have found value in using the CHI for a range of specific events including:

- product launches in the clinical simulation environment, where the background enhances the photo or TV coverage;
- workshops introducing groups of prospects to their product range;
- education of clinicians, away from the demands of their workplace;
- hands-on training for their own staff, to prepare them for on-site demonstrations.

An NZ company might find it cost-effective to train its Australian representatives at the CHI, leaving its products installed and ready for demonstration to prospects.

Purchasers include CEOs, CIOs, clinical product buyers, and those building new hospitals (both Project Managers and PPP Executives). They have actively used the CHI for various purposes:

- for a targeted exploration of a set of products, either in side-by-side comparison of competitors, or an in-depth simulation of the detailed workflow;
- for an untargeted exposure to what's new and interesting in an area of concern;

- to stimulate interest and discussion among (for example) senior medical staff about technology opportunities and impacts;
- to force decision-making on a group, with the advantage of full exposure to the products under consideration.

## **Industry Groups (health IT)**

### **Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA).**

<http://www.hisa.org.au/>

### **Medical Software Industry Association (MSIA)**

<http://www.msia.com.au/?pid=3>

### **Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA)**

<http://www.aiia.com.au/>

### **Health Information Management Association of Australia**

<http://www.himaa.org.au/>

HIMAA Ltd is the national professional Association representing Health Information Managers in Australia.

### **Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA)**

[www.mtaa.org.au](http://www.mtaa.org.au)

### **Australasian TeleHealth Society (ATHS)**

[www.aths.org.au](http://www.aths.org.au)

## **Industry Groups (General)**

### **Aged Care Association**

[www.agedcareassociation.com.au](http://www.agedcareassociation.com.au)

### **Australian General Practice Network**

[www.agpn.com.au](http://www.agpn.com.au)

A network of 111 local organisations, and well as eight state based entities.

Represents more than 90% of GPs and an increasing number of practice nurses and other allied health professionals.

### **The Australian Private Hospitals Association**

<http://www.apha.org.au/>

### **The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association**

<http://www.aushealthcare.com.au/>

### **The Australian College of Health Service Executives (ACHSE)**

<http://www.achse.org.au/>

### **Standards Australia**

<http://www.e-healthstandards.org.au/>

Standards Australia's IT-014 Health Informatics Committee publishes national standards in health informatics that will support the sharing of information across the health care sector and align with international e-health developments.

Subject areas include:

[Collaborative Care Communications](#)  
[Diagnostic Messaging](#)  
[Electronic Health Records Interoperability](#)  
[Health Concept Representation](#)  
[Information Security](#)  
[Messaging and Communication](#)  
[Patient Administration Messaging](#)  
[Prescription Messaging](#)  
[Supply Chain](#)  
[Telehealth](#)

### **National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA)**

Joint Accreditation System of Australia & New Zealand (JAS-ANZ).

One of the accredited labs includes:

#### **Australian Healthcare Messaging Laboratory Services**

<http://www.ahml.com.au/>

AHML is a non-aligned, not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to promote and facilitate the adoption of compliant international healthcare messaging standards. AHML is providing a world-class, easy-to-access message testing environment for software developers and implementers. The Laboratory is located in the Ballarat Technology Park in Western Victoria

## **Events**

### **CeBIT (E-Health exhibition)**

24-26 May 2010, Sydney

<http://www.cebit.com.au/2010/expo/e-health>

### **hic 2010**

24-26 August 2010, Melbourne

<http://www.hisa.org.au/hic2010>

Organised by HISA

### **Health-e-Nation 2010**

9-10 September 2010, Sydney

[www.health-e-nation.com.au](http://www.health-e-nation.com.au)

Organised by CHIK Services

## **Media / websites**

### **CHIK Health-e-Directory (and newsletter)**

<http://www.chik.com.au/main/index.php>

*Published by CHIK Services*

### **Pulse+IT magazine**

<http://www.pulsemagazine.com.au/>

Pulse+IT is Australia's IT magazine dedicated to the health sector. *(Website offers news stories; you can also view copies online for free)*

### **Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association (AHHA) - E-Healthcare Brief**

<http://www.aushealthcare.com.au/membership/>

AHHA's electronic weekly newsletter reporting relevant news, events and research.

### **HIM Journal**

Published by Health Information Management

### **Australian Health Review**

[http://www.aushealthcare.com.au/publications/publication\\_details.asp?pid=30](http://www.aushealthcare.com.au/publications/publication_details.asp?pid=30)

Australia's foremost peer reviewed journal for decision makers in the Australian health care industry. Areas covered by AHR include health policy, management, administration, health care delivery systems, clinical programs and other topics of interest to those working in the health care industry. AHR is published on a quarterly basis

### **Australian Federal Government e-health portal**

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/eHealth>