

# Press Release



Central Coast  
Division of  
General Practice



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## **E-health, e-ssential to reform Central Coast health care**

Transforming the Central Coast health records and processes to an eHealth system is the key to a coordinated and seamless health system in this region and will be pivotal in improving health care for individuals and families, Dr Phil Godden said.

“Utilising electronic medical records and having electronic access to hospital discharge notices can fundamentally change the pace at which health services can be delivered, an aspect that should not be underestimated,” Dr Phil Godden said.

“Good health care is provided through timely and responsive processes and infrastructure, and often time is not on a patient’s side. For health professionals, eHealth is essential to overcoming the fragmented and complex health system we are confronted with today.

“An effective eHealth system will offer health professionals and patients a greater level of accuracy during the course of treatment. For instance, when a GP receives a test result for a ‘John Smith’, the GP will be confident that the electronic record for that result matches the ‘John Smith’ sitting in that GP’s consultation room.

“Ehealth and healthcare identifiers will also help to reduce the risk of medical errors because practitioners can ensure the right information is linked to the right patient.

“By providing a modern eHealth system of health care, general practitioners, allied health professionals and hospital administrators will be able to co-ordinate and communicate more effectively and as a result, deliver a more seamless health care system for patients.

“The general practice network is perfectly placed, with its track record, to assist general practice to meet the demands of an eHealth future.

“Funding now needs to be provided to the network to enable the network to implement eHealth systems and processes throughout primary health care, and linking into the hospital system.”For too long there has been too much talk but too little action on this issue”.

“The Central Coast Division of General Practice looks forward to pursuing an eHealth system that will help to improve the quality of care for individuals and families in our local community,” Dr Phil Godden said.

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For Release to: Media outlets

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