Pathology reports are being shared with the My Health Record to give consumers more information about their health

From April 2017, pathology reports from public hospitals will start being shared in the My Health Record.

If you have a My Health Record, you and any healthcare professionals involved in your care will be able to see these public pathology reports, wherever and whenever they are needed.

Private pathology laboratories will gradually connect to the My Health Record system over the next few years, as their software becomes compatible.

Sharing pathology reports with the My Health Record will help:

- Improve access to information for you and your healthcare providers;

- Reduce doubling up and unnecessary testing; and

- Save time for your doctor or other members of your healthcare team in trying to locate or request copies of your pathology results.

It will also help you:

Keep track of the tests you have had and allow a comparison of your results over time.

Over the next 12 months, pathology reports will be shared in the My Health Record for patients from public hospitals in New South Wales Health, Northern Territory Department of Health, Tasmanian Health Service, ACT Health and Queensland Health. The Northern Territory Department of Health is already uploading diagnostic imaging reports to the My Health Record. Other pathology and diagnostic imaging providers are also working to participate in sending reports to My Health Record.

This means that you may not find pathology or diagnostic imaging reports in the My Health Record just yet. However, within the next year or so more of these reports will be available.

What you need to know

Your pathology report will still be sent to your regular GP, or whoever has requested the tests, as usual.

If you have a My Health Record:

Your pathology report will be uploaded to your My Health Record and will be immediately available to members of your healthcare team; and

Your pathology report will be available for you to view one week after it is uploaded to the My Health Record. This is so your doctor can review the report and contact you about the results, if need be, before you can see it in your My Health Record.

Australian Government

Australian Digital Health Agency

If you do not want a report uploaded to your My Health Record, please tell your doctor. If you have a My Health Record, you can also set access codes to restrict who sees your record.

In some parts of Australia, under State or Territory laws, sensitive information cannot be released (e.g. AIDS or HIV status and some sexually transmitted disease results) without the express consent of the individual. In these instances, the reports will not be sent to the My Health Record.

Reading your pathology report

- It is always best to discuss your results or any concerns with your doctor;

- Reading the results can be confusing; and

- All that is red or outside the range is not always abnormal.

For more information about reading your pathology report visit:

Lab Tests Online *AU*
EXPLAINING PATHOLOGY

http://www.labtestsonline.org.au

For more information or to register for a My Health Record:

Go to myhealthrecord.gov.au

Ask your doctor

Call 1800 723 471

Visit a Medicare Office

If you have a complaint or feedback about My Health Record you can:

Call the My Health Record Help line on **1800 723 471**

Send your complaint to:
My Health Record
PO Box 9942
Sydney NSW 2000

Contact the Australian Information Commissioner, see
https://www.oaic.gov.au/