

MY HEALTH RECORD SHARED HEALTH SUMMARY AND EVENT SUMMARY

What is a Shared Health Summary?

The Shared Health Summary represents the patient's status at a point in time.

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioner's (RACGP) Digital Business Kit and My Health Record position statement provides additional guidance on digital health records including shared health summaries. Shared Health Summaries can be created at any consultation, and may include information about a patient's medical history, including:

Medical conditions:

- Medicines
- Allergies and adverse reactions
- Immunisations

The most recently uploaded Shared Health Summary in a patient's My Health Record is likely to be the first document accessed by any other healthcare professional viewing a patient's My Health Record.



What is an Event Summary?

The Event Summary captures key health information about significant healthcare events that are relevant to the ongoing care of an individual. An event summary may be used to indicate a clinical intervention, improvement in a condition or that a treatment has been started or completed. An Event Summary may contain:

- Allergies and adverse reactions
- Medicines
- Diagnoses
- Interventions
- Immunisations
- Diagnostic investigations.

What is the difference between a Shared Health Summary and an Event Summary?

For regular patients, a GP, Registered Nurse or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner is likely to create or update a Shared Health Summary to give a holistic picture of an individual's health at a point in time.

The Event Summary is intended for use by healthcare providers who are not the patient's regular healthcare provider (i.e. not their regular medical practitioner, Registered Nurse or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner), to give information about a patient's significant healthcare events (e.g. receiving travel immunisations) or to indicate a change in their health status (e.g. the end of wound management).

MY HEALTH RECORD SHARED HEALTH SUMMARY AND EVENT SUMMARY

When to create a Shared Health Summary?

A Shared Health Summary can be created at any consultation; however, uploading a shared health summary will be particularly beneficial for patients with chronic conditions and co-morbidities. As part of putting the My Health Record system into practice, the RACGP recommends that a healthcare provider creates and uploads a Shared Health Summary when completing a patient health assessment, because this is a time when the health summary within the local GP clinical system is being updated. For example:



A GP management plan

Patients who have one or more chronic medical conditions and need a GP management plan may also benefit from having a SHS uploaded to their My Health Record at the same point in time.



75+ health assessment

This structured assessment of a patient over 75 years may be a good opportunity to upload a Shared Health Summary to their My Health Record given the in-depth review that is undertaken. It also supports ongoing management for the patient, their family and other healthcare providers.



4 year-old health check

As with all patient health assessments, inclusion of a Shared Health Summary after conducting the “4 year-old health check” would likely be a timely capture of an individual’s health status. This may also increase a parent’s understanding of their child’s needs.



Flu vaccination

Another opportune time to upload a Shared Health Summary is when offering the flu vaccination. Many of the high-risk patients to whom your practice offers the flu vaccination may also benefit from the creation of a Shared Health Summary to manage their health.

When to create an Event Summary?

The types of events recorded in an Event Summary will vary, and across healthcare sectors there will be different common scenarios. Some examples of what an Event Summary could be used for include:

Travelling/transient patients

Offering to upload an Event Summary for a holidaying patient or an individual on the move means less reliance on the patient’s memory of the event when they return to their regular provider, which could affect any future care provided to the patient.

Patient receiving an after-hours medical service

In a situation where a patient is not visiting their regular GP (e.g. at the weekend or over a public holiday) but the healthcare event and diagnosis are significant, it may be useful for the healthcare provider to upload an event summary. The diagnosis could be referenced by the patient, their regular GP and any future healthcare providers.

Patients receiving a service from a healthcare provider who are not authorised to upload a Shared Health Summary

Event summaries can be completed by authorised healthcare providers who are not authorised to upload a shared health summary. This could be, for example, an Allied Health Professional who is wanting to share a summary of the consultation.