



**THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP**  
**Minister for Health and Ageing**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**MOMENTUM BUILDING AROUND E-HEALTH**

Personally controlled electronic health records (PCEHR) are a step closer today following the closing of applications for the second round of lead implementation sites.

The Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon, said the strong response demonstrated a keen interest to get PCEHR up and running.

“The high number and quality of applications has sent a clear message that people want to be a part of the Gillard Government’s investment in revolutionising our health system”, Ms Roxon said.

“After the outstanding success of the e-health conference in Melbourne earlier this month, there is strong momentum behind delivering the Government’s \$466.7 million PCEHR system by July 2012.”

“Over 90 applications were lodged to implement the second wave of e-health sites. These tenders represented healthcare organisations, medical professional groups as well as national and regional industry.”

“The Gillard Government is getting on with the business of delivering improved health services to the community. E-health, including PCEHR, will help prevent medication errors that cause an estimated 190,000 hospital admissions each year.”

Three first-round lead implementation sites in North Brisbane, the eastern suburbs of Melbourne and the Hunter urban health area are already planning to deploy and test e-health infrastructure and standards in real-life healthcare settings based around general practice.

The second-waves e-health sites aim to expand upon existing work and cover situations for health consumers, general practitioners, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, pharmacies, hospitals and aged-care homes.

“We have been listening intently to the ideas of those who need and deliver health care, and we will work closely with technology creators to ensure a smooth transition to e-health”, Ms Roxon said.

Ms Roxon said she would announce the number and location of selected sites early this year.

**For more information, contact Ms Roxon’s Office: (02) 6277 7220**