



ACT Government
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\$3 MILLION TO ADVANCE E-HEALTH IN THE ACT

More than \$3 million has been provided in the 2006–07 Budget to assist the ACT's participation on the National e-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA).

e-Health is the electronic management of health information to deliver safer, more efficient, and better quality healthcare.

“Electronic health information (or e-Health) systems that can securely and efficiently exchange data can significantly improve how important clinical and administrative information is communicated between healthcare professionals,” Health Minister Katy Gallagher said.

“As a result, e-Health systems have the potential to unlock substantially greater quality, safety and efficiency benefits.

“This funding which provides \$0.687 million in first year, will go towards ACT Health's costs for participation and engagement with several national e-Health initiatives including NEHTA, the e-Health Implementation Group in the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and *HealthConnect*.

“This figure will increase over the next four years, rising to \$0.808 million by the 2009-10 financial year, which ensures the ACT's participation on these important health initiatives.

“The benefits of the ACT's participation on this national body include access to critical pieces of e-Health infrastructure that we do not have the resources to develop on our own.

“It also allows us to access further funds from the *HealthConnect* project which we can put towards the implementation of our e-Health systems.

“Ultimately, our full participation in the e-Health movement allows us to maintain the good health status of the ACT as a whole.”

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