

The University of Melbourne Health Informatics Network Email news bulletin June 2008

CHIRS

Our next Collaborative Health Informatics Research Social (CHIRS) get-together will be Thursday 19th June. We meet 5-6:30 PM in the lounge at University House. All welcome; contact one of the convenors (below) if you need directions. No need to RSVP. If a colleague / student / research partner is interested, please bring them along. Some interesting guests are expected this month. In 2008 CHIRS is once again sponsored by VeRSI, the Victorian eResearch Strategic Initiative <http://versi.edu.au>

Informatics-enhanced clinical and health services research roundtable

On July 17 the Health Informatics Steering Committee will host the second of four high-level working groups intended to set a leadership agenda for research and research training. A summary of the proceedings of the May roundtable is now available. Details at http://www.healthinformatics.unimelb.edu.au/practitioners/ind_roundtables.html

Resources

- A Consensus Statement has been developed by the Coalition for eHealth Australia to assist in lobbying for a National eHealth Plan. Details: www.ceh.net.au/?q=node/2
- The Department of Health and Ageing has released results of its 2006 IT Readiness Survey of the Aged Care Sector. Details: www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing-rescare-econnect-itsurvey.htm

Call for papers

Health Informatics New Zealand 7th Annual Conference and Exhibition, 15- 17 October, Rotorua.
Extended closing date for proposed papers: 20 June. Refer to www.hinz.org.nz/component/option.com_frontpage/Itemid.1/

NEHTA summit

The introduction of the Individual Electronic Health Record (IEHR) for all Australians is the focus of a summit meeting of peak bodies that represent consumer and clinician interests in the healthcare sector, in Canberra on 18 June. Contact: kate.ebrill@nehta.gov.au

e-Health Federal budget summary

Courtesy of CHIK Services ICT Newsletter... "There are mixed e-health messages from the first Federal Labour budget. The budget establishes a National Infrastructure fund but is not likely to focus on health ICT infrastructure at this stage. +\$60.6 million has been allocated for 2008-09 to work with the states, professional groups and consumers, to address the aspects of e-health requiring national leadership and coordination including the development of a national e-health strategy (overall reduction of \$4 million). Electronic support for GPs will be remodelled saving \$110.7 million. Further development of Eclipse is halted - continued focus on rolling out current functionality (overall reduction of \$20.3 million). AIHW will include e-health in statistical reporting."

Google Health launched

Google Health, aimed at health consumers, supports building online health profiles, importing medical records from hospitals and pharmacies, finding health information resources, searching for healthcare providers, and connecting to other online health services. Details: <https://www.google.com/health/html/about/>

Steering Committee news

The next Health Informatics Steering Committee meeting is Monday July 7th. If you would like more information about these meetings please contact a Reference Group member: Ann Borda, Jim Black, Kathleen Gray, Peter Harris (Chair), Graeme Hart, Marianne Hibbert, Reeva Lederman, Teng Liaw, Graeme Shanks, Loane Skene, Liz Sonenberg, Leon Sterling, Justin Zobel.

If you have news, ideas, or items of interest for the next HINet bulletin please contact us by July 8th. If you know of someone who would like to be on the mailing list, just let us know. Regards from HI Network convenors, Kathleen Gray, Biomedical Multimedia Unit 8344 8936 & Reeva Lederman, Department of Information Systems 8344 1535.