

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **Development of world's first Digital Hospitals Handbook**

A project was launched this week at Standards Australia to develop the world's first Digital Hospitals Handbook.

This initiative is led by the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) and the National Health CIO Forum (NHCIOF). The project will broadly address how technology can be used to deliver more efficient hospital services.

At the launch Standards Australia CEO Dr Bronwyn Evans spoke about the significance of this initiative. "The value of applying technology to the delivery of health services cannot be underestimated."

Dr Evans also leads the Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals Growth Centre, which aims to boost the competitiveness, productivity and innovative capacity of Australia within this sector.

"The work around digital hospitals will effectively align with the innovation emerging from the direction of this new industry policy," said Dr Evans.

The scope of the project is to develop a set of principles and recommendations that inform the design and implementation of Digital Hospitals (new or refurbished) to ensure that:

- The underlying principles of what a "digital hospital" is are clearly articulated, explained and illustrated through scenarios or examples
- The digital hospital principles are clearly aligned with the benefits of taking a "digital hospital" approach to the design, construction and commissioning of healthcare facilities through a benefits estimation/realisation framework
- The Information and Communication Technology systems architecture of healthcare facilities enables innovative ways for providing healthcare services that support positive outcomes for stakeholders now and into the future.

Dr Evans recognised the Department of Health and Human Services Victoria for their work in crafting the original proposal.

Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-039, Digital Hospitals, is responsible for delivering this project. The committee is comprised of stakeholders from government, industry and medical representatives.

ENDS.

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