

Health Record Management Systems Data Integration Feasibility Study



This fact sheet provides an overview of the Health Record Management Systems (HRMS) Data Integration Feasibility Study.

Background

The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) collects data to understand the costs of delivering aged care services in residential and in-home settings.

As part of the Residential Aged Care Cost Collection 2024–25 we are undertaking the HRMS Data Integration Feasibility Study to explore more efficient and scalable ways of understanding the costs of residential aged care.

IHACPA currently uses proximity Bluetooth technology to collect primary cost and activity data from participating residential aged care providers. This process is resource intensive. The HRMS study will take existing data from HRMS used by providers and assess if this data can be used for resident-level costing.

The HRMS study process



Data privacy and security

With the consent of participating homes, IHACPA will work with each HRMS vendor to extract data. This process is secure and centralised, causing minimal disruption to the homes and residents.

Data privacy and security are the cornerstones of our work. We use our secure data management system (SDMS) for data transfer and anonymise the data collected. This means residents, staff and third parties cannot be identified from the data. The collected data will only be used for the purposes of this study and IHACPA will not share it with third parties or repurpose it. At the end of the study, we will destroy all raw data and use de-identified data for publications.



Tailored data analysis and consultation

IHACPA analyses HRMS data to categorise care activities for residents in aged care homes. These activities are linked to care plans and staff roles to create a clearer picture of the resources needed for care delivery.

Clear communication between IHACPA and the participating homes ensures the results are valuable. After the data analysis, we will hold consultations with the site's team to identify or confirm the staff delivering each activity, the time spent, activity frequency and costing outputs.



Validation

The costing results from the study will be compared with the existing non-IHACPA activity data and data collected via the Residential Aged Care Cost Collection 2024–25 Bluetooth method at the participating homes. Both sets of results will undergo accuracy checks and any differences between the two methods will be examined.

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