

## Northern Territory Clinical Senate

### COMMUNIQUE - MEETING NO. 4: 30-31 AUGUST, 2018

The topic of the fourth meeting of the NT Clinical Senate has been about using data to improve the NT health system. Significant investment has been made over the years by both NT and Commonwealth governments in data management, and recording and capturing patient information. The development and implementation of the NT Health electronic medical record, going live in 2019, provides the impetus and opportunity to improve access to data for all clinicians across the NT to review and improve patient care.

The NT health system is unique in its small population, single hospital record number and its strong focus on primary care. This provides opportunities for improving data linkages between agencies to improve research development and service planning. Now is the time to develop a clinician-led information strategy to ensure the opportunities provided by the electronic medical record support best clinical practice now and in the years ahead. The patient's voice needs to remain at the centre of care and it is vital that information which is relevant to patients is embedded in practice.

The NT Clinical Senate has made a number of recommendations to the Chief Executive to encourage the NT health system to foster data-informed practice supporting clinicians across the NT to work in partnership with patients to improve care outcomes.