What is a Digital Health Community of Excellence?

Communities of Excellence connect a range of peak health bodies and consumer organisations so they may better use digital health technologies that are key to Australia's National Digital Health Strategy.

Primary Health Network (PHN)

The PHN brings together the community needs and the objectives of the National Digital Health Strategy to establish and implement a Community of Excellence.

The Digital Health Manager of the PHN sets up and works with a Steering Committee in their community to determine initiatives.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is co-chaired by clinical and consumer advocates. The committee also features representatives from healthcare provider cohorts and a member of the local council.

Community Initiatives

Initiatives are proposed and undertaken on an ongoing basis.

These can range from upgrading technological systems to organising community talks.

Digital Health Priority Areas

The Steering Committee meets and decides on initiatives in line with the project plans created in the Setup phase.

- **My Health Record**
- **ePrescription**
- **Secure Messaging**
- **Telehealth**

Committee Objectives

The committee decides on initiatives that work towards the key objectives, and supports the PHN's Digital Health Manager in rolling them out.

1. Connect, educate and train healthcare providers within the community with the technologies of the digital health priority areas.
2. Develop and implement a digital health literacy program for local residents to teach them about digital health and how to use it.

Community Outcomes

- Improved patient and healthcare provider experiences.
- Improved continuity of care and shared care pathways.
- Improved digital health literacy and engagement of consumers with their own health and care.