How to switch health insurers if you’re worried about cybersecurity, costs or claims

Switching insurers can provide better matches to consumer needs and increase competition, prompting service improvement.

In light of the Medibank cybersecurity breach, Dr Anam Bilgrami and Professor Henry Cutler write for The Conversation on what to consider when switching health insurers.

Unlocking the future of virtual care in NSW
New $1.27m federal partnership grant to unlock the future of virtual care

Health Infrastructure NSW today welcomed a $1.27 million innovation grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council to boost research in world-leading change management practices to deliver better health facilities for patients and the community. The research is led by Associate Professor Reema Harrison.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic virtual care (such as hospital in the home) came into focus. People could remain in their home, being safely monitored via health professionals located elsewhere, rather than having to visit a bricks and mortar premises. This new project will investigate best practice models to sustain these types of services and extend them across other health conditions.

“By fully integrating virtual care with face-to-face services, health systems will be positioned to offer better care for patients, realise efficiencies and provide optimal healthcare experiences,” says Associate Professor Harrison.

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JAMIA focus issue on climate change and ehealth
The prestigious international Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA) has released the first academic focus issue on climate change and health informatics.

The editors of this special issue are Professors Enrico Coiera and Farah Magrabi, both internationally recognised leaders in the field of digital health.

“We used to think of large-scale serious weather events as rare and isolated events, but they have become more common and we must recognise what can be done as individuals and as a profession,” says Professor Coiera.

Health informatics and digital health solutions are fundamental to addressing both the causes and the consequences of global heating, yet this is not widely understood, say Professors Coiera and Magrabi in their editorial for the special issue.

From 8 billion to 4 billion - how to save the planet

With the world's population reaching 8 billion this month, Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite called for an urgent conversation about how to reduce the world's population and ease pressure on
Join the hundreds of people who have already downloaded copies of the Health Innovation Series - short, sharp factsheets with clear recommendations to address safety issues in electronic medication management systems.

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AIHI values the opportunity to present research via video conferencing and in person for Australian and international forums.

With the easing of travel restrictions, 2022 has been an exceptionally busy time for conferences, here's a small sample: Clockwise from top: Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite opening the International Society for Quality in Health Care conference in Brisbane (October), with special guest Bumpy the wombat; Professor Johanna Westbrook with Ms Susan Pearce, Secretary for NSW Health, at the opening the Centre for Health Systems and Safety Research's National Medication Safety Symposium in Sydney (September); Professor Enrico Coiera presenting at the 20th anniversary of the Centre for Health Informatics (July); and Professor Henry Cutler with the team from the Centre for the Health Economy at the 43rd annual Australian Health Economics Society conference in Brisbane (September).
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