<div align="center">

Question on Notice

No. 761

Asked on 13 June 2018

</div>

MR J KELLY asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) —

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise what impact the Princess Alexandra Hospital Digital Hospital program has had on reducing falls, medication errors, hospital acquired infections, pressure area injuries and any other hospital related complications?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government is revolutionising patient medical records and leading digital healthcare innovation in Australia.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) is the first large-scale digital hospital in Australia. I am advised that the implementation of the Digital Hospital program and its foundational element, the integrated electronic Medical Record (ieMR), has provided the following significant benefits:

- Falls – 11.3 per cent decrease in falls that have caused a fracture or intracranial injury. This decrease is due to the significantly increased level of access to real time information via the ieMR relating to the patient's falls risk, viewable at many locations and by many health care professionals.

- Medication errors – 8 per cent decrease in total reported incidents linked to drug administration and monitoring errors. This decrease is due to the increased safety of ordering and administering medications via the ieMR – the drug is ordered in the system, clinician decision support warns the clinician about drug interaction, the order is legible, the patient has a bar code to confirm identity, and the drug has a bar code that is scanned to confirm it is the right drug for the right patient.

- Infections – 37 per cent decrease in total reported staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia infections. This marked decrease in infections is due to the ease of access to clinical information such as intravenous line removal dates with clinician reminder.

- Pressure injuries – 56 per cent decrease in total reported Stage 3 and Stage 4 hospital acquired pressure injuries. This decrease is due to the increased ease of access to the relevant clinical information as well as real time reporting from the ieMR, so clinicians can easily see which patients are due for pressure area care, and the transparency of skin inspection completion information.