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Media Release: Future Wise rejects additional surveillance powers

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Future Wise rejects any calls for additional surveillance of the Australian population, as [reported yesterday](#) by the Daily Telegraph, and calls on all political parties and Digital Health Australia to categorically rule out any use of myHealthRecord data for security purposes.

"The government says this paper has not been discussed at a Ministerial level, but the existence of any discussion around further warrantless surveillance is concerning," said Future Wise's Trent Yarwood, who continued "We are particularly concerned about the use of myHealthRecord for intelligence and security purposes. The government belled the cat in the myHR secondary use consultation.

"It would be an unacceptable breach of confidentiality to enter information into myHR which could potentially be used by security agencies without a warrant. No health professional should knowingly put their patients' data at risk this way." went on Dr Yarwood - who also works as a medical specialist.

"As with telecommunications data retention, Future Wise believes this sort of warrantless access is not a necessary or proportionate response to crime in the modern era. We want all political parties to draw a line in the sand and show they are concerned with the privacy of all Australians, and not just their security." Dr Yarwood concluded.

Future Wise is an independent policy and advocacy organisation, focusing on technology, health, and education; and is a strong voice for digital privacy in Australia. Further information about Future Wise is available on our website: <https://futurewise.org.au>

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