The debate around the ability of My Health Record to provide a level of security guaranteeing privacy is lacking in logic
MICHAEL CONNORY, SECURITY IN DEPTH

E-records save lives, there's no debate

MICHAEL CONNORY

Australians are in a lather over the misconceived belief that the government's My Health Record (MHR) is open to hacking and puts every Australian's personal health records at risk.

Data breaches are far too common and Australians are right to be cautious about who holds their personal information and the level of security provided. However, to what degree do we interpret vigilance for paranoia?

Privacy and the protection of personal information will always remain an important issue and Australians should never give away the right to demand utmost accountability.

However, the current debate around the ability of MHR to provide and maintain a level of security guaranteeing privacy is flawed and lacking in logic.

Australia has a health system the envy of the world. We lead the way in medical research, medical technology and specialist treatment programs.

A federally funded system is part of the mosaic that makes what we have so special. MHR adds to that mosaic.

The idea of a central system allowing Australians' health records to be available to hospitals and doctors is a model we need to embrace. It is well overdue. Information in real time allows doctor faced with an emergency to treat someone with greater efficiency and speed, and make accurate diagnoses based on medical history.

It saves lives and improves care. Nothing is better than that.

The detractors believe the cons outweigh the pros. It's difficult to understand how saving lives and improved healthcare is a negative.

Choice to decide is a right we value. When presented with the right information, our decision-making is enhanced. Yet Australians choosing to opt out of MHR are making a shortsighted decision based on misinformation.

It's a decision they could live to regret when faced with an emergency.

Various media reports have painted a picture of dire inevitability, where every Australian's health records will be up for grabs. No federal government would ever put at risk the personal and private information of Australians.

It has invested hundreds of millions of dollars developing MHR not for it to be a security risk.

It's wrong to think a flagship-based records system will be without the highest form of security to ensure data protection.

I am highly protective about data privacy and protection. My decision to opt in is based on considered fact and the right information, as opposed to speculative noise generated by special interest groups attempting to derail an overdue program.

Saving lives is what the MHR will achieve.

For an ageing population, it also improves healthcare and outcomes, and, over the long term, reduced costs.

MHR allows:

- Doctors to make better-informed decisions on prescribing medicines.
- Doctors who discover patients shopping for drugs to provide alternatives.
- Doctors to see what medicines are being used and prescribe medicines that are supportive.
- Australians to control who sees what information and when.
- People to see their medical records and use them for their own medical purposes.
- People to track who looks at their health records — identifying and addressing any potential misuse.

Every Australian should be cautious about privacy but being fearful of doctors using information for personal gain is a difficult argument to accept. The introduction of MHR is not to be feared. The government isn't lurking in the shadows waiting to snare our personal information — they already have it.

Michael Connory is chief executive of Security in Depth

ıds

Rating
7/10

ır 560X graphics

storage

formance throttling
mory card slot
y expensive

ıore resource-intensive task. But ven that's not enough.

It seems the Core i9 processor ıad throttled back to a slower performance, due to overheating. Cameron says the 2018 model's an was whirring often.

I soon discovered that I am not lone in having this concern.

The problem could be ventiation with such high-end performance in a small and thin form ictor. *I've recently been testing me high-end gaming laptops,* ıd on one, half the bottom is a ge grill. The Pro doesn't offer at degree of ventilation.

One suggestion is that the fan oesn't kick in quickly enough to uell the heating. In that case, pple could probably address hat with a software update to get to kick in faster.

In the end, I don't believe our pecced up Pro review unit should ave performed as poorly as this. The benchmark test with Cinebench shows that generally it is ery fast (902 cb) but it can heat uickly to its maximum 100C for ome applications. That triggers he fan but also throttling.

It was simple to set up. You lug it into power, connect it to he Pro via a Thunderbolt 3/USB-C cable and you are done.

Overall, this year's MacBook Pros bring Apple back into the narket of offering the latest high-nd components in a powerful aptop, but the company needs to ddress what looks like a signifiant heat throttling issue that can legrade performance.

orations

music recedes a little into the background and you hear your surroundings courtesy of four external microphones.

Nuraphone offers two forms of noise cancellation. The architecture of the cups forms a seal to keep sound out. Then there's electronic active noise cancellation. Nura last week released a software update to enable it on existing user headphones. Nura says it works with both high and low frequencies.

The microphones also let you use the headset for calling even away from your phone, provided you're within Bluetooth range.

Nura deserves points for having a system where the headphone software can be easily updated via the app. It allows for future enhancements.

The piece de resistance is none of the above. It's the unique ear cup design that means you have multiple speakers in your ears. The cup itself has an embedded earbud that fits into your ear and delivers treble. Around it is a speaker that booms out bass.

I tested out the limits of this bass speaker by boosting "immersion mode" to 100pc, what Nura calls the "front row" experience. The bass boomed to the point where I felt physical vibrations in my ear as well as loud bass.

Nuraphone costs $499 and is available through the Nura website and Amazon.