



MEDIA RELEASE

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MTAA WELCOMES RELEASE OF CYBER SECURITY STRATEGY

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) has welcomed the release of the Government's 2023-2030 Australian Cyber Security Strategy.

The Strategy's release comes on the heels of MTAA's Digital Health Report which highlighted cyber security as an urgent national problem, requiring immediate action. The Report noted cyber-attacks were a growing threat to healthcare, with a number of significant security incidents having already affected Australians.

MTAA CEO, Ian Burgess, said the MedTech industry commended the Government's investment into health-specific cyber security through a direct investment of \$4.9 million to build a threat sharing platform for the health sector.

"As the world we live in continues to be enveloped by digital technologies, the risks that come with the benefits of such changes requires real and coordinated responses from government and industry to protect information and people," Mr Burgess said.

"We were pleased to see the Government has adopted our Report's recommendation to implement a body similar to Singapore's Cyber Security Labelling Scheme (CLS), which was developed in consultation with industry, and serves as an excellent example of a voluntary regulation that helps increase consumer trust in medical devices. This directly aligns with Australia's own Strategy 'to help consumers make informed choices about the security of devices on the market'."

As the peak body representing more than 100 MedTech companies in Australia, MTAA has called for the implementation of uniform cyber security provisions for all players in the supply chain.

Through the MTAA Cyber Security Working Group and Digital Health Advisory Group, industry is at the forefront of fostering digital health and cyber security expertise by increasing local workforce capabilities.

MTAA is looking forward to continuing to work with government and health sector stakeholders to develop a local fit-for-purpose cyber security framework that protects Australians and health technologies.

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About MTAA

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) is the national association representing companies in the medical technology industry. MTAA aims to ensure the benefits of modern, innovative and reliable medical technology are delivered effectively to provide better health outcomes to the Australian community.

MTAA represents manufacturers and suppliers of medical technology used in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment and management of disease and disability. The range of medical technology is diverse with products ranging from familiar items such as syringes and wound dressings, through to high-technology implanted devices such as pacemakers, defibrillators, hip and other orthopaedic implants. Products also include hospital and diagnostic imaging equipment such as ultrasounds and magnetic resonance imaging machines.

MTAA members distribute the majority of the non-pharmaceutical products used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability in Australia. Our member companies also play a vital role in providing healthcare professionals with essential education and training to ensure safe and effective use of medical technology.