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**Australia and U.S. End Patient Consent Rights**

Australia has given citizens three months to opt-out of their national health data system. Those who don’t opt out by October 15th will have a national medical record created for them. About 20,000 people opted out the first day.

Before this, only 6 million people—a quarter of the population—had chosen to be part of the system, but now consent has been eliminated. The only option is dissent. A cybersecurity firm calls the Aussie system an attractive “honeypot” of data for “bad guys.” In the U.S. consent has also been dismissed—by HIPAA. The eHealth Exchange, a decentralized national system, is underway to permit data-sharing nationwide without patient consent.

