

Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Administration of Health Practitioner Registration by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Thursday 5 MAY 2011

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Ex-Gratia Payments

Question reference number: HS1

Senator: FIERRAVANTI-WELLS

Type of question: *Hansard F&PA 31-32*

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 20 May 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) **Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS** —In relation to these ex gratia payments, if ex gratia payments or some form of payment will be made that would be paid through Medicare?

Ms Kruse: I would have to take that on notice.

- b) **Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS** —I would assume, in light of what Ms Flanagan said this morning, that that process is ongoing. Could you take on notice the amounts, the number of those payments and to the practitioners and to the patients?

Answer:

- a) No. Medicare Australia is not responsible for making ex-gratia payments to health professionals, patients or members of the public. This would be a decision for the Department of Finance and Deregulation, in consultation with the Department of Health and Ageing.

- b) Nil. Please see comments above.