

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000197

OUTCOME: 3 – Access to Medical Services

Topic: Child Dental Benefits Scheme

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas Jan

Question:

Of the children who have accessed the Child Dental Benefits Scheme, as at 1 March 2014 please provide a breakdown of these numbers by state and territory, and by ASGC classification, and the amounts paid in benefits in these categories too.

Answer:

It is not possible to provide numbers of patients who have accessed the Child Dental Benefits Scheme by Australian Standard Geographical Classification-Remoteness Areas (ASGC – RA) by State due to privacy considerations for statistics associated with low patient numbers. Separate analyses of patients and benefits by month are provided for ASGC-RA nationally, and for states and territories.

Breakdown by ASGC-RA

Month and RA		Number of Patients	Benefits paid
January 2014	Major City	12,497	\$2,792,814
	Inner Regional	4,472	\$883,322
	Outer Regional	1,072	\$222,012
	Remote, Very Remote, and unknown*	158	\$30,211
	Total	18,201	\$3,928,356
February 2014	Major City	48,599	\$11,483,365
	Inner Regional	15,857	\$3,452,965
	Outer Regional	5,190	\$1,201,363
	Remote, Very Remote, and unknown*	680	\$150,421
	Total	70,326	\$16,288,115
Total**	Major City	58,120	\$14,276,032
	Inner Regional	19,329	\$4,336,019
	Outer Regional	6,038	\$1,423,532
	Remote, Very Remote, and unknown*	798	\$180,886
	Total***	84,285	\$20,216,471

* Remoteness areas combined due to privacy concerns with low patient numbers.

** Patient totals represent number of individual patients accessing the CDBS in January and February 2014 by postcode of residence, and are not a sum of values for each month as patients may have accessed benefits over both months. Totals may be affected in cases where a patient moves to a different postcode in the period.

*** Values may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Breakdown by state:

		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Total*
January 2014	Benefits Paid	\$2,116,390	\$907,262	\$702,442	\$92,584	\$70,429	\$13,419	\$2,446	\$23,385	\$3,928,356
	Number of patients	9,511	4,658	2,886	576	364	73	13	121	18,201
February 2014	Benefits Paid	\$7,086,753	\$3,617,128	\$4,041,617	\$937,915	\$390,504	\$76,313	\$24,170	\$113,715	\$16,288,115
	Number of patients	28,865	16,858	15,980	5,759	1,771	390	117	594	70,326
Total	Benefits Paid *	\$9,203,143	\$4,524,390	\$4,744,059	\$1,030,498	\$460,934	\$89,732	\$26,616	\$137,099	\$20,216,471
	Number of patients **	36,105	20,455	18,146	6,247	2,068	453	128	695	84,285

* Values may not sum to totals due to rounding.

** Patient numbers do not sum to totals because patients may have accessed benefits in multiple states and over both months.

