

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000220

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Medical Device Registers

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas Jan

Question:

What modelling has been done on the benefits to patients, surgeons and device companies of these registers?

Answer:

An international study of thirteen registries in five countries (Australia, Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States) showed that by making data transparent, registries enable medical professionals to engage in continuous learning and to identify and share best clinical practice. For example, Sweden's registry for acute coronary care has become a key resource in the efforts of Swedish cardiologists to improve health outcomes.¹

The National Joint Replacement Registry is considered to have delivered substantial benefits and is estimated to have reduced the number of unnecessary revision operations by 1,200 procedures per year and saved the health sector and consumers around \$44.6 million since it was established.

¹ Larson S et al, *Use of disease registries in 5 countries demonstrates the potential to use outcome data to improve health care's value*, Health Affairs, 31, no. 1 (2012):220-227