

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12 -111

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Reviews

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 2

Senator: Senator McKenzie

Question:

For this financial year to date:

- a) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- f) What reviews are planned? When will each of these reviews commence and be concluded?

Answer:

The term 'review' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question the Department of Health and Ageing has interpreted it to refer to major policy reviews commissioned at Ministerial level. This answer excludes internal reviews which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes reviews which are conducted as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a) to e), are provided below.

The total number of reviews completed or underway in the health and ageing portfolio, in the 2011-12 financial year to date, is ten.

a) Review title	b) Date of completion	c) Date Provided to Government	d) Date of Government Response	e) Estimated cost (\$)
Mid-Point Implementation Review of the Organ and Tissue Donation Reform Package	Completed 31 July 2011	31 July 2011	23 September 2011	149,900
Review of the Gene Technology Act	Completed December 2011	December 2011	All of Government response being developed	75,403
Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule (PBS) 'Statins' (lipid lowering drugs) review The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) completed assessment in July 2012	PBAC considered the report at its July 2012 meeting	PBAC's advice requires consideration by the Minister	Not applicable	Over 500,000
Review of Anticoagulation Therapies in Atrial Fibrillation	To be completed in August 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	400,000
Review of Authorisation and Clinical Governance Framework for Intravenous Immunoglobulin	To be completed in October 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	700,000
Review of the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme	To be completed in October 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	594,942
Review of Health and Medical Research	To be completed in December 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	2,650,000
Review of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998	To be completed in August 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	150,000
Evaluation of the National Continence Program	May 2014	Not yet provided	Not applicable	485,100
Evaluation of the Consumer Directed Care (CDC) Initiative	Completed January 2012	The report of this review has been provided to Government	Government included CDC in its Living Longer Living Better package	387,549

(f) None planned at present.