

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: E12-203

OUTCOME 7: Hearing Services

Topic: Hearing Services

Type of Question: Hansard Page 111, 31 May

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Siewert

Question:

How many [hearing aid recipients] try them for a while and put them in a drawer?

Answer:

The Office of Hearing Services (OHS) has not undertaken any longitudinal surveys of usage of hearing aids over time by voucher clients.

Information on the reported usage patterns by clients in respect of the OHS 2010 Rehabilitation Plus Benchmarking Survey will be available when the results and analysis of the survey are published by the National Acoustics Laboratory (NAL).

While the above survey results examined hearing aid usage on a daily basis (ie. how many hours a day was the hearing aid used), it did not target clients who try hearing aids and opt not to wear them at all.