

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-340

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION FOR TRANSPLANTATION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

What training do people who have undertaken the medical ADAPT training go through?

Answer:

Participants in the medical Australasian Donor Awareness Program (ADAPT) workshop are fully qualified doctors who have completed undergraduate or post-graduate medical degrees, interns and residents training in hospitals and who are undertaking specialist training in intensive care medicine or emergency medicine. Successful completion of the medical ADAPT workshop is a mandatory component of the six-year specialist diploma required to become a Fellow of the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand. In addition, already qualified specialists with an interest in becoming an “appropriate requestor” in the organ and tissue donation process (such as intensive care medicine specialists and emergency medicine specialists) can also attend the medical ADAPT workshop. All participants in the program are expected to have a strong understanding of the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Statement on Death and Organ Donation, which is provided as part of the program pre-reading material.

The medical ADAPT workshop is a one-day workshop which explores the clinical aspects of organ and tissue donation, and sensitive communication with families of potential donors. The workshop provides participants with:

- a detailed explanation of brain death and cardiac death (the two pathways to donation);
- a comprehensive understanding of the processes involved in donation;
- a greater understanding of the grief and bereavement experienced by those facing the sudden death of a family member;
- skills to explain to families the complex and sensitive concepts of brain death and cardiac death; and
- skills to request family consent to organ and tissue donation.