

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30 May 2011

Question: E11- 525

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: TARGIN – COST TO GOVERNMENT.

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) What is the cost to government for TARGIN over five years?
- b) Is that a figure that you had a net cost to government when you take into account the PBS outlay as opposed to MBS cost savings?
- c) So what do you estimate would be the total number of patients that would be treated with TARGIN per annum?

Answer:

a) and b)

The cost of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing measures considered by the Cabinet, are Cabinet-in-Confidence. They do, however, include the net cost to the Government, taking into account PBS, Department of Veterans Affairs, Medicare Australia, and where appropriate, Medical Benefits Scheme, impacts.

c) The expected number of patients who may have been prescribed Targin in each year of listing is Cabinet-in-Confidence.