



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health and Ageing**

Dr Ian Holland  
A/g Secretary  
Senate Community Affairs Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Dr Holland

**Request for Amendment to Evidence Provided at the Senate Community Affairs  
Legislation Committee Hearing, 31 May 2011, Outcome 5, Primary Care**

I am writing to correct a statement that I made at the Budget Estimates of the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee on 31 May 2011.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked the following question:

“How many additional GPs have been attracted into aged care as a result of the enhanced rebate initiative announced in the 2010 budget?”

My response was as follows:

“Yes. The take-up of the Aged Care Access Incentive under the Practice Incentives Program is that in 2009-10 around 4,800 GPs were paid for reaching the tier 1 target and around 3,300 GPs were paid for reaching the tier 2 target. Both represent almost a two per cent improvement on 2008-09. There is a four per cent improvement on the number of GPs reaching tier 2. It also represents an increase of 7.2 per cent in MBS items for services provided in residential aged care facilities.”

It has been brought to my notice that the numbers and the percentage rates do not correlate. The response should now be amended as follows (changes are underlined):

“Yes. The take-up of the Aged Care Access Incentive under the Practice Incentives Program is that in 2009-10 around 4,800 GPs were paid for reaching the tier 1 target and around 3,300 GPs were paid for reaching the tier 2 target. This represents a 14 per cent improvement on the number of GPs reaching tier 1 from 2008-09. There is a 22 per cent improvement on the number of GPs reaching tier 2. It also represents an increase of 7.2 per cent in MBS items for services provided in residential aged care facilities.”

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennie Roe'.

Jennie Roe  
Assistant Secretary  
Practice Support Branch  
8 June 2011