

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30 May 2011

Question: E11-493

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: MENTAL HEALTH

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Senator Moore asked:

If we could get a graphic that you design, not Senator Fierravanti-Wells – if we could have mental health and the streams of these things that come out. It is clear that it comes into other areas.

Answer:

Below is a table showing the allocation of mental health programs and related topics by Outcome. Please note the Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma moved from Outcome 10 to Outcome 11 as of 1 July 2011.

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| Outcome 1 – Population Health | |
| Program Group 1.3 | Description |
| Through Program 1.3 (Drug Strategy), the Australian Government aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support drug and alcohol treatment services and social marketing through the Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants Fund | Included is the Improved Services Initiative which provides funding to the non-government drug and alcohol sector to deliver treatment services and build the sector's capacity to effectively address and treat coinciding mental illness and substance abuse. |
| Outcome 3 – Access to Medical Services | |
| Program Group 3.1 | |
| Medicare Services | Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners through the Medical Benefits Schedule initiative provides better access to mental health care by general practitioners, psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, psychologists and appropriately trained social workers and occupational therapists. This program is appropriated under Outcome 3; however activities are reported under Outcome 11 in the Portfolio Budget Statements. |
| Outcome 5 – Primary Care | |
| Program Group 5.1 | |
| Primary care education and training | Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners through the Medicare Benefits Scheme (Better Access) initiative. This program is appropriated under Outcome 5; however activities are reported under Outcome 11 in the Portfolio Budget Statements. |
| Program Group 5.2 | |
| Primary care financing, quality and access | Mental Health Services in Rural and Remote Areas program. This program is appropriated under Outcome 5; however activities are reported under Outcome 11 in the Portfolio Budget Statements. |
| Outcome 8 – Indigenous Health | |
| Program Group 8.1 | Description |
| Through Program 8.1, the Australian Government aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve social and emotional wellbeing services. | Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program. The program aims to enhance existing service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, including members of the Stolen Generations, through more flexible models of service delivery and increased capacity to meet demand for services. |
| Outcome 11 – Mental Health | |
| Program Group 11.1 | Description |
| Through Program 11.1, the Australian Government aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve the capacity of the mental health system to provide better coordinated and integrated care across the spectrum of severity of mental illness; strengthen primary mental health care; strengthen mental health services for children and young people; improve the transparency and accountability of mental health services nationally; provide mental health services through KidsMatter; and develop strategies to reduce rates of suicide. | All other DoHA mental health programs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2011-12 Budget mental health reform measures ATAPS Day to Day Living Telephone and web based mental health services headspace EPPIC Early Intervention Services for Parents, Children and Young People measure (Kismatter) National Suicide Prevention Program Mental Health: Taking Action to Tackle Suicide package Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma National Perinatal Depression Initiative Maternity peer support |
| Outcome 12 – Health Workforce Capacity | |
| Program Group 12.1 | Description |
| Through Program 12.1, the Australian Government aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the number of, and provide support to, health professionals working in regional, rural and remote Australia. | The Mental Health Nurse Incentive Payment Program seeks to increase access to coordinated clinical care for patients with severe and persistent mental health disorders in the primary care setting. The program aims to reduce unnecessary hospital admission and readmission rates and increase levels of physical health and connectedness to the community. |

