

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

14 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000490

Retention bonus available to all staff at aged care facilities

Spoken

Hansard Page number: 28

Senator: Rachel Siewert

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Will the retention bonus be made available beyond direct-care staff to cleaning staff, kitchen staff and anybody who works in aged-care facilities?

Prof. Murphy: There hasn't been a decision about that at the moment, to the best of my knowledge.

Senator SIEWERT: Surely those workers could, potentially, also introduce the virus into facilities?

Prof. Murphy: Potentially—although the risk is obviously much greater with the direct-care workers, who have direct contact with the residents. That's been the experience so far.

Senator SIEWERT: Maybe you could take this on notice: do you have a breakdown of the staff that are not direct-care staff in aged-care facilities who have COVID?

Prof. Murphy: We can take that on notice, certainly.

Question:

Maybe you could take this on notice: do you have a breakdown of the staff that are not direct-care staff in aged-care facilities who have COVID?

Answer:

The Department does not have data identifying COVID-19 infected aged care staff by role type.