

Senator Wendy Askew question taken on notice:

QUESTION 1

You mentioned in your submission how many fewer heart health checks were conducted during the period of the pandemic. Have those numbers returned to normal?

Dr Lisa Murphy, CEO of Stroke Foundation response:

The National Heart Foundation of Australia has estimated that 27,000 fewer Heart Health Checks were conducted due to COVID-19.

Specifically, between March 2020 to March 2021, 92,380 heart health checks were undertaken.

The number of heart health checks undertaken has increased steadily since then, and between March 2023 to March 2024, 207,919 heart health checks were undertaken, the highest number since the Medicare Benefits Schedule item numbers were introduced in early 2019.

Reference List:

Heart Foundation internal modelling data, September 2021, quoted in The Medical Republic. Are you prepared for CVD prevention in a post-COVID world? Sydney: The Medical Republic, 2021.

<http://medicalrepublic.com.au/are-you-prepared-for-cvd-prevention-in-a-post-covid-world/55249> [Accessed 28 June 2024]