

Question on notice no. 389

Portfolio question number: SQ23-004942

2023-24 Supplementary Budget estimates

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio**

Senator Malcolm Roberts: asked the Civil Aviation Safety Authority on 3
November 2023—

Please provide the AVMED evaluation document or meeting minutes for COVID
vaccines.

Answer —

Please find answer attached

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2023 - 2024

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 389

Departmental Question Number: SQ23-004942

Division/Agency Name: Agency - Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Hansard Reference: Written (03 November 2023)

Topic: CASA - AVMED Evaluation Document

Senator Malcolm Roberts asked:

1. Please provide the AVMED evaluation document or meeting minutes for COVID vaccines.

Answer:

Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) medical officers discussed the development of COVID-19 vaccines on a number of occasions in January 2021, however these were not decision-making forums and as a result no meeting minutes were prepared for those discussions.

Guidance was published on CASA's website on 15 February 2021 and in the Designated Aviation Medical Examiner (DAME) newsletter on 8 February 2021 as follows:

“The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is Australia's regulatory authority responsible for assessing COVID-19 vaccines before they can be used in Australia. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been provisionally approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for individuals 16 years and older. The Department of Health has published a range of information about the development, approval process and plans for COVID-19 vaccines.

To find out more, view their website: <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines>.

Please be advised that after receiving COVID-19 vaccine, aviation related duties should not be undertaken for 24 hours after each dose of vaccination. As stated in the CASA clinical practice guidelines, this waiting period is similar to and required after receiving any other vaccination/immunisation”.