

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15-17 February 2012

Question: E12-008

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: AUSTRALIAN HEALTH PRACTITIONER REGULATION AGENCY (AHPRA)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Xenophon asked:

- a) Have there been any reviews into AHPRA's operations?
- b) Are there any upcoming reviews?
- c) What mechanisms does AHPRA have in place to deal with complaints, particularly those related to bullying, unfair dismissal etc?

Answer:

- a) Yes. The Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee Inquiry into the administration of health practitioner registration by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) was undertaken in 2011 and the report tabled on 19 January 2012.
- b) Under the Council of Australian Governments Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, an independent review will be initiated by the Ministerial Council following three years of the scheme's operation.
- c) If the question refers to mechanisms to deal with complaints against practitioners, the AHPRA website provides advice on the complaints process at www.ahpra.gov.au/notifications-and-outcomes/make-a-notification.aspx

If the question refers to complaints about AHPRA's internal workplace relations policies, it should be referred to the AHPRA Management Committee which has responsibility for AHPRA's operations.