

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-010

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON IMPROVING PUBLIC HOSPITAL SERVICES – SUBACUTE BEDS ALLOCATED TO MENTAL HEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Wright asked:

In reference to the 2010 COAG agreement to spend \$1.6 billion on creating 1300 subacute beds, some of which were to be allocated to mental health:

- a) What proportion of the 1300 subacute beds has been allocated to mental health?
- b) What progress has been made in implementing the mental health aspect of this agreement?

Answer:

- a) 22 per cent of beds and bed equivalents are classified as subacute mental health (which includes psychogeriatric care), based on Commonwealth approved state and territory Implementation Plans under the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA IPHS). These Implementation Plans span four years from 2010/11 to 2013/14.
- b) Progress made in implementing the mental health aspect of the NPA IPHS is reported by states and territories to the Commonwealth half yearly. Eight mental health beds and bed equivalents have been delivered, based on the most recent Commonwealth approved Progress Reports which cover the period January to June 2011.