

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-021

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY

Written Question on Notice

Senator Di Natale asked:

Is the Government intending to commission an Australian Burden of Disease study to update the previous study published in 2007?

Answer:

The previous Burden of Disease and Injury in Australia 2003 was jointly commissioned by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the University of Queensland and funded by the Department of Health and Ageing.

The Australian burden of disease work was based on the principles and methods used in the Global Burden of Disease study. Currently, the global work is being updated, with results expected by mid-2012. This will inform future Australian work and so the timing and impact needs to be taken into consideration should Australia wish to revise the national burden of disease estimates.

The AIHW is currently preparing two working papers; one outlining inputs needed for revising the burden of disease estimates and the other examining methods for calculating the burden of disease due to specific risk factors.