

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-025

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Written Question on Notice

Senator Di Natale asked:

Does the Department have records of how many patients are charged the \$4.04 allowable fees for medicines priced under the co-payment amount? Does the Department monitor the extent to which Approved Pharmacists make patients aware of these charges?

Answer:

While transaction data related to Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medicines priced under the co-payment amount has been collected since 1 April 2012, no pricing information is included. Departmental monitoring is on an exceptions basis only, on receipt of a specific complaint.