

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-072

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: REVIEWS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McKenzie asked:

For this financial year to date:

- a) How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- f) What reviews are planned?
- g) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer:

The term 'review' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question the Department of Health and Ageing has interpreted it to refer to major policy reviews commissioned at Ministerial level. This answer excludes internal reviews which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes reviews which are conducted as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a), b), c), d), e), f) and g) below.

The total number of reviews completed or underway in the health and ageing portfolio, in the 2011-12 financial year to date, is **eight**.

a) Review title	b) Date of completion	c) Date Provided to Government	d) Date of Government Response	e) Estimated cost (\$)
Mid-Point Implementation Review of the Organ and Tissue Donation Reform Package	Completed 31 July 2011	31 July 2011	23 September 2011	149,900
Review of the Gene Technology Act	Completed December 2011	December 2011	No response received yet	75,403
Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule (PBS) 'Statins' (lipid lowering drugs) review	To be completed in July 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	Over 500,000
Review of Anticoagulation Therapies in Atrial Fibrillation	To be completed in August 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	150,000
Review of Authorisation and Clinical Governance Framework for Intravenous Immunoglobulin	To be completed in September 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	700,000
Review of the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme	To be completed in October 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	802,449
Review of Health and Medical Research	To be completed in December 2012	Not yet provided	Not applicable	2,650,000
Evaluation of the Consumer Directed Care Initiative	Not available	Not available	Not applicable	387,549

As at March 2012, there is only one review planned (f), the Review of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act, which is due to be concluded in May 2012 (g).