

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-211

OUTCOME 14: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: CLOSURE OF TORRES STRAIT TB CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) From 2009 till present there have been 622 reported cases of Tuberculosis in Queensland can you tell me how many of those were identified as being from the Torres Strait, Cairns and Cape York?
- b) How many of those were MDR TB?

Answer:

- a) Between 1 January 2009 and 15 February 2012 a total of 591 incident cases of tuberculosis were reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) by Queensland. NNDSS standard data fields reported by Queensland show that 16 cases were resident in Cairns (Postcode 4870) and 21 cases were resident in the Torres Strait (Postcode 4875). Cape York is not separately identified.
- b) Drug susceptibility testing cannot be determined from the NNDSS standard data fields.