

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-216

OUTCOME 13: ACUTE CARE

Topic: SUBACUTE BEDS

Hansard Page: CA 129

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Do you have data on the total number of subacute beds in each jurisdiction before and since the measure came into effect? So that is under the capacity criteria and then under the new agreement? Do you have that data?

Answer:

Total counts of subacute care beds for each jurisdiction are not available, as apart from dedicated subacute facilities, published data do not distinguish beds by care type (acute, subacute, non-acute).

States and territories are required to report new and additional subacute beds and bed-equivalent services delivered under the subacute care element of the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services. Progress reports from the states and territories indicate that 249.9 subacute care beds and bed-equivalents were delivered in 2010-11.

Under the subacute care element of the National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform (referred to as capacity criteria) states and territories report annually on growth in subacute services against agreed targets. These reports are published on the Review of Government Service Provision website (<http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/national-partnership/hospital-health-agreement>) and summarized below:

Cumulative growth from 2007-08 in subacute services as reported under NPA HHWR Schedule C – Subacute Care.

2007-08 to:	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
2009-10	14.4%	12.4%	10.4%	27%	7.7%	16.3%	26.1%	21%
2010-11	22.6%	14.1%	31.9%	15.6%	32.1%	16.2%	16.4%	43%

Note: There are caveats to some of the data