

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-217

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: SUBACUTE CARE

Hansard: CA 129

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Under those two scenarios [i.e. the subacute care provisions of the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform and the NPA on Improving Public Hospital Services] have there been any changes in the number of acute beds?

Answer:

Published data do not distinguish beds by care type (acute, subacute, non-acute). The average number of available public hospital beds in 2009-10 (excluding psychiatric hospitals) was 54,812, compared with 54,382 in 2008-09. Data for 2010-11 are expected to be published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in April 2012. [Sources: AIHW (2011) *Australian Hospital Statistics 2009-10*, Table 4.2 / AIHW (2010) *Australian Hospital Statistics 2008-09*, Table 2.2.]