

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-259

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

What advice has the Commission provided to the local hospital networks on safety and quality issues, how will the Commission work with local hospital networks, and can you detail the data and information sharing processes with local hospital networks?

Answer:

In 2011 Health Ministers endorsed the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards to drive the use of safety and quality healthcare systems in Australia. The Commission has published a range of resources to assist local hospital networks implement these Standards.

The Commission has also produced resources on improving healthcare safety and quality which are available to local hospital networks, including the Infection Control Guidelines developed in 2010 and the publication Antimicrobial Stewardship in Australian Hospitals 2011 to assist hospitals develop and implement antimicrobial stewardship programs.

Individual local hospital networks have received such material and have responded to Commission consultation processes.