

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013**

**Question:** E13-052

**OUTCOME 2:** Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** Chemotherapy Drugs

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

Where are the negotiations with stakeholders up to regarding the impact on the department's Expanded and Accelerated Price Disclosure (EAPD) policy in relation to chemotherapy drugs?

**Answer:**

The Department of Health and Ageing has sought a range of information and evidence on the effect of price disclosure changes on chemotherapy services. Officers from the Department have also visited a range of private hospitals and chemotherapy dispensing pharmacies to hear first-hand any issues of concern and to gather detailed information on business models and current costs.

The Department is holding "in good faith" discussions with the Pharmacy Guild of Australia. Good progress has been made and these discussions are continuing.