

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013**

**Question:** E13-057

**OUTCOME 2:** Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** Chemotherapy Drugs

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

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

Why does the Department continue to argue that the funding must come out of the Fifth Community Agreement when it was clear that there are other stakeholders involved – and directly impacted upon by the price reductions to chemotherapy drugs including private hospitals, clinics, public hospital pharmacies and public cancer clinics?

**Answer:**

Remuneration for the dispensing of chemotherapy medicines is a component of the \$13.8 billion allocated in the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement for the dispensing of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medicines.