

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-183

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: Independent Hospital Pricing Authority – Data Plans

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

- a) Has the IHPA developed a three year data plan, in accordance with the National Health Reform Agreement?
- b) Has any direction been provided to the IHPA about the adequacy or otherwise of a data plan?
- c) What progress has been made to streamlining and rationalising of data requirements and of progress towards a national data repository?
- d) Is there any information available on the total national costs to providers, States and Territories and other relevant entities of new data requirements and requests by Commonwealth agencies?
- e) When will a single provision multiple use data set operational?
- f) What action is the Commonwealth taking to ensure Commonwealth and national agencies are working together to achieve this outcome and when will it be achieved?

Answer:

- a) The Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) released its first three year data plan in April 2012, covering the period 2011-12 to 2014/15. IHPA's second three year data plan, covering the period 2013/14 to 2015/16 will be considered at the 22 April 2013 Standing Council on Health meeting.
- b) IHPA has not received any direction on the content of the first three year data plan.
- c) The Commonwealth in concert with all states and territories participates in the National Health Information Performance Principle Committee (NHIPPC). The NHIPPC has commissioned and received a report on the rationalisation of data reporting requirements seeking to operationalise a "report once and use multiple times" principle. The NHIPPC has considered the report and recommendations and is now in the process of developing the cost benefit statement across the recommendations. Within these recommendations was the consideration of a national data repository which is expected to be explored as a priority within the overall set of recommendations.

- d) No, but it is expected that the Commonwealth Agencies will re-use performance information that is already provided by states and territories before seeking additional performance data.
- e) This is a matter which is being discussed and agreed across all jurisdictions through the NHIPPC.
- f) The Commonwealth has brought all of the Commonwealth agencies together in a data governance role to ensure that common and consistent approaches are being applied to the data plans and requirements.