

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-211

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: Home Medicines Review

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Question:

- a) Has the Department consulted with professional indemnity insurance providers regarding the potential ramifications for pharmacists of not responding to a Home Medicines Reviews, referral in the event of a moratorium?
- b) In the event of a moratorium, patients that have Home Medicines Review interview appointments made will need to be informed that they will be denied this service. Has the Department explored how this would be coordinated in the event of a moratorium? Has the Department investigated the costs associated with such an action?

Answer:

- a) The Minister for Health, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, announced on 11 February 2013 that she had decided not to pursue a moratorium on Home Medicine Reviews.
- b) As the Minister has announced a moratorium will not occur, no consultation has been undertaken.