

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Budget Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-254

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: Poly Implant Protheses (PIP) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Xenophon

Question:

- a) Has the government done any further consulting on whether to extend the rebate for MRIs in relation to the PIP implants? There was an issue with some medical practitioners suggesting that, while the government's proposal for a period of 12 months was very welcome, it should be extended beyond that. Has there been any further consideration given to extending the MRI rebate beyond the initial period.
- b) It is for 12 months only at this stage?
- c) Has any analysis been done on the efficacy and the desirability of extending beyond 12 months?

Answer:

- a – c) The Government has considered the status of the PIP MRI initiative and has made a decision to extend the timeframe for the initiative for an additional two years.