

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 February 2015**

**Ref No: SQ15-000092**

**OUTCOME:** 1 - Population Health

**Topic:** Practice Incentive Payments

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

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

How will quality-focused PIP better manage and detect chronic disease in primary care?

**Answer:**

A key component of the Government's reform agenda is to strengthen Australia's primary health care system, particularly in relation to chronic disease.

There is increasing evidence to support the concept of continuous improvements in the organisation of care resulting in better outcomes and lower costs.

A new quality-focused incentive would be used by practices to support quality improvement not currently recognised through fee-for-service payments. This would foster practice-based continuous quality improvement which, in turn, would encourage best practice in the management and detection of chronic conditions by primary care providers.