

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000026

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Rheumatic Heart Disease

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

There is growing concern regarding the future of the rheumatic heart disease control programs in WA, SA, Qld and the NT. Commonwealth funding for the programs ends in June 2016 and the programs have been given no surety that new funding will be available post June 2016. Can the Department provide an update?

Answer:

The matter is under consideration by Government.

The Australian Government has funded the National Coordination Unit (RHDAustralia) until June 2017 to continue to support all jurisdictions, including those not funded through the RFS, to reduce the impact of acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease.