

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000075

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: Pathology and Diagnostic Imaging Cuts

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

How many additional patients are forecast to qualify for the Medicare Safety Net as a result of the withdrawal of bulk billing incentives for pathology and diagnostic imaging services.

Answer:

The impact to patients accessing the Medicare safety net as a result of changes to bulk billing incentives for pathology and diagnostic imaging is expected to be minimal, as it is anticipated that providers of pathology and diagnostic imaging will continue to bulk bill their patients.