

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000214

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: Western Blot Tests

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Madigan, John

Question:

How many and which bands are considered on a western blot test for a positive diagnosis to be made? Who established that criteria?

Answer:

The interpretation of in vitro diagnostic assays is a function of pathologists and medical laboratory scientists responsible for test authorisation and reporting. Reporting criteria are based on the in vitro diagnostic device manufacturer's product information as well as relevant epidemiological data and internal test validation studies.