

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000303

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: Item Numbers

Type of Question: Hansard Page 46, 10 February 2016

Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: I am looking at a list of obsolete items. Is that the one under tranche 1? You have a list of item numbers under diagnostic imaging, ENT, gastro, obstetrics and thoracics.

Ms Cahill: That is a small part of the work that has been done by those various clinical committees. One of the things that they were asked by the taskforce to do early in their process was to look through the list of items that had been allocated to them and identify any items that they believed, on the basis of their clinical expert opinion, were potentially obsolete. That work was then drawn together by the department and went out for public consultation in December.

Senator GALLAGHER: I am after the list. Is there a list somewhere of items that the committees are looking at?

Answer:

The list of Medicare Benefits Schedule items being reviewed by the clinical committees in the first tranche is available on the Department of Health's website:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/MBSR-committees>