

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000220

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Biologic Drugs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

- a) What proportion of PBS expenditure is on biologics (drugs whose names end in mab - monoclonal antibody)?
- b) How has that proportion changed over the last 5 years?

Answer:

Medicines with the suffix ‘-mab’ represent a subset of the biological medicines listed on the PBS. Data is therefore provided on proportion of expenditure for all PBS biological medicines and also for PBS ‘mABs’ specifically.

Proportion of total PBS expenditure

	2010-11	2015-16
Biological medicines – Total	19%	27%
Biological medicines - Monoclonal Antibody medicines ending in ‘mab’	10%	16%

Source: PBS data maintained by the Department of Health and sourced from the Department of Human Services (Medicare)