

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-079

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW (PSR) SCHEME

Written Question on Notice

Senator Back asked:

Can you assure me that savings targets being pursued by the Government driving this agenda?

Answer:

The PSR Scheme is in no way driven by savings targets. The Scheme is administered to achieve the objectives set out in section 79A of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*, which are to protect the integrity of the Commonwealth medical benefits and pharmaceutical benefits programs and in doing so:

- a) protect patients and the community in general from the risks associated with inappropriate practice; and
- b) protect the Commonwealth from having to meet the costs of services provided as a result of inappropriate practice.