

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-015

OUTCOME: 9 – Private Health

Topic: Private Hospital Standards/Out of Pocket expenses

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Boyce

Question:

- a) Dr Michael Armitage CEO of the Private Healthcare Australia (PHA) has been quoted as saying; “There are a whole lot of hospitals C-Triple-Minus and we just keep backing the truck full of gold bars to pay them.” Is this fair comment?
- b) Do you have any information that would counter such a view?
- c) Are there appropriate sanctions for C-Triple-Minus performers?

Answer:

a) to c)

Regulation of private hospitals is the responsibility of state and territory governments and is under their legislative control.

The National Health Performance Authority (NHPA) is required to monitor and report on the performance of Local Hospital Networks, public and private hospitals and primary health care organisations. The Performance Authority is working with the private hospital sector to develop relevant indicators and data sources to support nationally consistent and comparable reporting of private hospital performance.

The NHPA also operates the *MyHospitals* website which provides information on all public hospitals and most large and medium sized private hospitals. Participation by private hospitals is voluntary. The NHPA is working with the sector to increase the range of information on private hospitals on *MyHospitals* as more detailed performance reporting for the sector is developed.