

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

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

**Question: E13-049**

**OUTCOME:** 2 – Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

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**Senator:** Boyce

**Question:**

What is the average length of time it takes new high cost cancer treatments to get on to the PBS?

**Answer:**

The average time taken for Cabinet to consider high cost medicines (greater than \$10 million in any of the forward estimates years) following pricing agreement is currently around 4.2 months. For high cost medicines to treat cancer, the average time taken for Cabinet to consider following pricing agreement is currently around 5.8 months.