

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E13-051

OUTCOME: 2 – Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Boyce

Question:

Bristol-Myers Squibb, the manufacturer of Yervoy, was given a recommendation by the PBAC last November, 6 months ago. Given people with metastatic melanoma have on average about 6 months to live, could you tell me why the Government is taking so long to list Yervoy on the PBS?

Answer:

Ipilimumab (Yervoy®) for the treatment of advanced or metastatic melanoma was listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme on 1 August 2013.