

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E13-242

OUTCOME: 12 - Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: Workforce Capacity

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale

Question:

- a) In its 2011-12 annual report, the Department notes that the number of general practices receiving incentives for employing practice nurses is below the Department's target? Does more recent data indicate that the shortfall is continuing?
- b) What measures to redress this shortfall have been evaluated?

Answer:

- a) No, more recent data indicates that the number of practices approved for the Practice Nurse Incentive Program (PNIP) is in line with expectations. For the 2012-13 financial year the target number of practices for PNIP is 4,000. The most recent data available for PNIP, May 2013 indicates that there are 3,978 practices approved for PNIP.
- b) N/A.