



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

Dr Ian Holland
Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Dr Holland

Ian,

**Request for Amendment to Evidence Provided at Budget Estimates Hearing,
Thursday, 6 June 2013: Outcome 2.**

I am writing to correct a statement that I made at the Budget Estimates Hearing of the Senate Community Affairs Committee on Thursday, 6 June 2013.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked the following question:

“what proportion of this is due to fewer than expected listings, lower utilisation or the impact of price disclosures and statutory price reductions – or a combination thereof?”

My response, on page 115, was as follows:

“and we have had \$640-odd million worth of new listings this year...”

It has been brought to my notice that this figure relates to the value of expenditure to the Australian Government for PBS listings since the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook to the 2013-14 Budget, and not for the full financial year.

The response should now be amended as follows (changes are underlined):

“in 2012-13 a further \$780 million worth of new listings and \$560 in the year before.”

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Felicity McNeill'.

Felicity McNeill
First Assistant Secretary
Pharmaceutical Benefits Division

17 July 2013