

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 216

Topic: Program 3.4 -Essential Medical Equipment Payment

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

1. Why was there a decrease of \$10.7 million in expenditure on the Essential Medical Equipment Payment program in the 2012-13 financial year when compared to the 2012-13 estimate? 2. Why has the expenditure on the Essential Medical Equipment Payment program halved over the forward estimates? 3. How many people will be affected by the reduction in funding for the program? 4. How many claims have been made so far in the 2012-13 financial year?

Answer:

1. Estimated expenditure on the Essential Medical Equipment Payment program in the 2012-2013 financial year has been revised to reflect take-up rates.
2. The payment has now been available since 1 July 2012 and the revised forward estimates are based on actual take-up rates.
3. Zero.
4. 31,292 claims at 31 May 2013.