

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000599

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: GP Co-payment

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

In regards to the GP co-payment:

- a) how many other fees were modelled?
- b) did any consultation occur, if so who with?
- c) please list the specific MBS item numbers that this co-payment applies to, including GP items, diagnostic imaging and pathology items.

Answer:

- a) The patient contribution measure was announced as a Budget measure in the 2014-15 Budget.
- b) While the Government does not consult with consumers or stakeholders on the final content of the Budget, it does employ a wide range of consultative mechanisms which influence the development of new policy proposals.
- c) The patient contribution measure applies to all Medicare Benefits Schedule items numbers in the MBS groups listed below. Only out of hospital services in these groups will be affected.

MBS GROUP	ITEM NUMBERS	SHORT DESCRIPTION
Group A1	Items 3-51 <i>(12 items)</i>	Consultation items
Group A2	Items 52-96 <i>(12 items)</i>	Consultation items
Group A11	Items 597-600 <i>(4 items)</i>	Urgent After Hours items
Group A22	Items 5000-5067 <i>(12 Items)</i>	After Hours items
Group A23	Items 5200-5267 <i>(12 items)</i>	After Hours items

MBS GROUP	ITEM NUMBERS	SHORT DESCRIPTION
Group P1	Items 65060 – 65181 <i>(48 items)</i>	Haematology
Group P2	Items 66500 – 66900 <i>(133 items)</i>	Chemical
Group P3	Items 69300 - 69500 <i>(66 items)</i>	Microbiology
Group P4	Items 71057 - 71203 <i>(76 items)</i>	Immunology
Group P5	Items 72813 - 72857 <i>(24 items)</i>	Tissue pathology
Group P6	Items 73043 - 73067 <i>(17 items)</i>	Cytology
Group P7	Items 73287 - 73335 <i>(33 items)</i>	Genetics
Group P8	Items 73521 - 73529 <i>(5 items)</i>	Infertility and pregnancy tests
Group P10	Items 73920 - 73939 <i>(19 items)</i>	Patient episode initiation
Group I1	Items 55005 – 55855 <i>(204 items)</i>	Ultrasound
Group I2	Items 56001 – 57361 <i>(86 items)</i>	Computed tomography
Group I3	Items 57506 -61110 <i>(233 items)</i>	Diagnostic radiology
Group I4	Items 61302 -61729 <i>(160 items)</i>	Nuclear medicine imaging
Group I5	Items 63001 – 63561 <i>(273 items)</i>	Magnetic resonance imaging