

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000604

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: GP Co-payment

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

- (1) How many concession card holders are there?
- (2) And how many concession card holders would have hit the 10 co-visit co-payment threshold in 2012-13?
- (3) What proportion of concession card holders is that?

Answer:

- (1) According to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Annual Report 2012-13, 5.558 million people had a concession card on 30 June 2013. This includes pensioner concession cards, health care cards, low income health care card, and the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.
- (2) According to Medicare data, there were 7.8 million people who had a concession card at any time during the 2012-13 financial year who had at least one Medicare service in that year. Of these people, 3.1 million had more than 10 in-scope services (that is, out-of-hospital services for which the patient contribution measure applies). Some of these services are not currently bulk billed.
- (3) 40 per cent of people who held a concession card at any time in the 2012-13 financial year (and received at least one Medicare service) had more than 10 in-scope services.