

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000609

**OUTCOME:** 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

**Topic:** Medicare Benefits Schedule

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

There was limited engagement with the Aboriginal Community Controlled Sector on the Co-payment policy changes. How will the Department be managing the engagement with a broad range of health professionals through the Primary Health Care Advisory Group?

**Answer:**

To inform its deliberations, the Primary Health Care Advisory Group will be undertaking a national consultation process in the coming months and all stakeholders are encouraged to engage in this process and where appropriate to promote this opportunity through their organisations and memberships.

In addition, as part of this process, members of the Advisory group will undertake face to face consultations with peak health sector organisations, including those representing the Aboriginal Community Controlled health sector.