

## Senate Community Affairs Committee

### ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017**

**Ref No: SQ17-000778**

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Bulk billing

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

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

What percentage of patients are bulk billed for all GP services in Australia? Please provide the most current data?

**Answer:**

The Department compiles statistics on patient bulk billing distributions at a national level on a financial year basis. The latest available statistics for 2015-16 are presented in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Bulk-billing patterns for patients who received at least one Non-Referred Attendance, 2015-16**

Financial Year	Bulk-billing rate for NRA services	Patient count (2)	Percentage of patients for the year	Percentage of NRA services for the year	Average Bulk Billing Rate
2015-16	0 %	2,260,220	10.8%	4.3%	0.0%
	1% - 9%	33,946	0.2%	0.4%	7.2%
	10% - 19%	277,514	1.3%	1.6%	14.5%
	20% - 29%	573,715	2.7%	2.6%	24.0%
	30% - 39%	562,896	2.7%	2.3%	34.0%
	40% - 49%	314,586	1.5%	1.8%	42.6%
	50% - 59%	967,453	4.6%	3.3%	52.2%
	60% - 69%	706,909	3.4%	3.1%	64.4%
	70% - 79%	503,376	2.4%	2.8%	74.5%
	80% - 89%	759,506	3.6%	4.8%	84.6%
	90% - 99%	399,819	1.9%	4.9%	93.6%
	100 %	13,516,412	64.7%	68.2%	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,876,352</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>85.1%</b>	

Notes:

(1) NRA = Broad Types of Service - VR GP, Other and Enhanced Primary Care Non-Referred Attendances

(2) Patients have only been counted if they claimed at least one NRA service in the reference period and have a non-negative number of Bulk-billed NRA services (zero permitted).