

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000786

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Bulk billing

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

What is the percentage of patients who are bulk billed for item 23 GP services - broken down into Commonwealth electorates? Please provide the most current data.

Answer:

The Department of Health only compiles statistics on patient bulk billing distributions on a financial year basis for GP non-referred attendances at a national level. The work involved to develop statistics on patient bulk billing distributions for item 23 by Commonwealth electorates would require a significant diversion of resources from other departmental operations.