

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

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

**Ref No:** SQ17-000791

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Prevention expenditure

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

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

What percentage of the Commonwealth's health budget will be spent on prevention in the 2017-18 year? What percentage of the Commonwealth's health budget will be spent on prevention in the 2016-17 year?

**Answer:**

The Department of Health implements a broad range of preventive health measures. Activities include addressing healthy eating, physical activity, obesity, tobacco, alcohol, research, immunisation, chronic disease, mental health initiatives and cancer screening. Health's preventive health efforts aim to support people to take responsibility to reduce their health related risk factors.

It is not possible to fully quantify health expenditure on prevention activities, as measures can have a broad remit. For example, preventive health can include guidance to clinicians, support for health service provision, support for the work of peak bodies and NGO groups, research and monitoring, and intervention and disease management components that cannot be disaggregated.