

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No: SQ17-000801**

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Out of Pocket costs

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

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

What was the average out of pocket costs for specialist consultations in the December 2014 quarter - broken down into Commonwealth electorate?

**Answer:**

The Department is unable to provide the average out-of-pocket cost for privately billed specialist services by Commonwealth Electorate for the December 2014 quarter as the considerable work involved would require a significant diversion of resources from other departmental operations.

The average out-of-pocket cost for privately billed specialist services nationally, by state and territory and by remoteness area by quarter is available on the Department of Health website at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Medicare+Statistics-1>