

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000807

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: GP bulk billing

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

In 2015-16, 64.7% of patients had all of their GP visits bulk billed. What percentage of patients had all of their GP services/visits bulk billed so far this year/this year to date?

Answer:

The Department of Health only compiles statistics on patient bulk billing distributions on a financial year basis. Statistics for the financial year 2016-17 will be compiled once Medicare data for the 2016-17 financial year becomes available.

Furthermore, representing this data over a shorter time period would make it not comparable with a full year's data.