

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000843

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

**Topic:** Dementia - Quality Standards

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

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

Why is there no specific reference to cognitive impairment in the draft Quality Standards given the growing rate of dementia?

**Answer:**

The draft Standards are being refined following public consultations. They are yet to be agreed by Government.

The consultation draft of the Standards require organisations to demonstrate effective care and service delivery for each of their consumers, in accordance with the consumer's needs, goals and preferences. This would include those consumers with cognitive impairment.

The draft Standards and the organisation requirements of those standards will be supported by guidance material. This guidance material, which is currently being drafted by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency and which will undergo its own consultation process, will assist in the interpretation and understanding of processes to support performance against the Standards. Providers will need to demonstrate that they understand the specific needs, goals and preferences of consumers and that care is delivered in accordance with those needs.