

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000862

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: 24/7 Nursing Research

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Has the Government undertaken any work or analysis, or are you aware of any such work or analysis on whether 24/7 nursing improves or would improve the care of those in residential care?

Answer:

The Department of Health has not undertaken any work or analysis that specifically addresses whether 24/7 nursing improves or would improve the care of those in residential aged care facilities.

The general focus of reports on aged care workforce, for example the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation's *National Aged Care Staffing and Skills Mix Project Report* of 2016, is on skills mix and levels of staffing in residential aged care, rather than on whether 24/7 nursing improves care outcomes.