

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-011

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Benefits

Topic: GENERIC MEDICINES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Siewert asked:

Do we have figures to show us the amount of generic medicines that are available that are below the co-payment thresholds?

Answer:

As at 1 October 2010, there were 220 off-patent medicines that were subject to brand competition on the F2 formulary. Of these 167 (76 per cent) had at least one form and strength which was priced below the general co-payment amount of \$33.30. No F2 drugs are priced below the concessional patient co-payment threshold of \$5.40.