

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-065

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: RU486

Written Question on Notice

Senator Barnett asked:

For each state and territory please provide:

- a) The number of practitioners who are currently authorised to supply mifepristone (RU486) for the termination of pregnancy?
- b) A breakdown of these numbers by each of the three indications (medical abortion in the first trimester; medical abortion in the second trimester; surgical priming prior to surgical abortion in the first and second trimesters) for which authorisations have been granted?
- c) For the six month period 1 January - 30 June 2010 the total number of the number of patients for whom mifepristone has been prescribed?
- d) A breakdown of the number of patients by each of the three indications (medical abortion in the first trimester; medical abortion in the second trimester; surgical priming prior to surgical abortion in the first and second trimesters) for which authorisations have been granted?

Answer:

- a) As at 20 October 2010 the number of practitioners authorised to prescribe RU486 is:

State/ Territory	Authorisations granted under the <i>Therapeutic Goods Act 1989</i> to prescribe mifepristone
ACT	6
NSW	33
QLD	12
SA	14
VIC	16
WA	7
TAS	0
NT	0
Total	88

- b) The provision of this information could lead to a breach of privacy as the numbers may be so low as to enable identification of individuals.
- c) The total number of patients for whom mifepristone has been prescribed between 1 January and 30 June 2010 is:

State/ Territory	Number of patients prescribed mifepristone from 1 January 2010 - 30 June 2010
ACT	0
NSW	1
QLD	9
SA	478
VIC	31
WA	56
TAS	0
NT	0
Total	575

Note: These figures are not complete as not all reports for the period ending 30 June 2010 have been received. Reports are first submitted to the ethics committee that endorsed the application before they are received by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

- d) This information is not available.