

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-257

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: IMS AND PBPA DATA

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Does the department rely on IMS data for its figures?
- b) Do all pharmaceutical companies supply sales data to IMS?
- c) Is the Department aware of which firms do not supply such data?
- d) Is the IMS data then accurate in regard to the generic medicine market?
- e) Does the department also rely on the Pharmaceutical benefits Pricing Authority annual report for its data?
- f) Does the PBPA only capture those medicines that cost more than the patient co-payments of \$31.83 for general patients or \$5.40 for concessional patients?

Answer:

- a) No.
- b) Refer to a) above, the Department is unaware which manufacturers do, or don't, supply sales data to IMS.
- c) No.
- d) The Department does not use IMS data to determine generic market share and is unaware of its accuracy.
- e) For a response to this question, please see Question E10-087 (part b) (Senator Boyce).
- f) For a response to this question, please see Question E10-087 (part a) (Senator Boyce).