

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-317

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asks:

- a) Why has one Perth general practice registered the name "super clinic" to protect itself from a government funded clinic at Midland?
- b) If this clinic is not going to compete with existing practices why would Dr Don Prendergast accuse the government of a "scandalous misuse of taxpayer funds" and I quote - "Whoever heard of a government giving someone \$10 million which they don't have to repay, to set up another small business just like ours, We're going to take an enormous hit when it's built.

Answer:

- a) The Department does not speculate as to the activities of private general practitioners.
- b) The Department does not speculate as to the accusations or the purpose of comments of private general practitioners.

It is the expectation of the Australian Government that GP Super Clinics will build on existing primary health care services and enhance, rather than compete with these services.