

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-346

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: EARLY PSYCHOSIS PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION CENTRES (EPPICS)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Currently, Australia's only existing EPPIC centre is at Oxygen Youth Health, which operates with an annual clinical service budget of approximately \$14.5m.

- a) Is it the Government's intention to create 4 EPPIC centres of similar scale, or to create 4 centres of much smaller scale, that lack some of the features of the EPPIC centre in Melbourne?
- b) If the Government intends to create 4 full scale EPPIC centres what level of State & Territory co? Funding is it seeking for each centre?
- c) If the Government intends to establish 4 smaller centres, what elements of the EPPIC program in Melbourne will not be available in the new centres?

Answer:

- a) The Oxygen Early Psychosis Prevention and Invention Centre (EPPIC) model in Melbourne, Victoria is a comprehensive state of the art facility. The measure is intended to extend the Oxygen EPPIC model to other parts of Australia. It is expected that implementation will occur flexibly to ensure that the model is cost-effective and sustainable, as well as to accommodate differences in jurisdictional infrastructure that would be required to support the model. To inform implementation, discussions are underway with Oxygen Youth Health about the core components that are fundamental to expanding the model in other jurisdictions.
- b) As indicated in response a) above, Centres will build on existing infrastructure in jurisdictions which will influence the overall shape of services and the cost. The level of co-contribution will be negotiated with each partnering jurisdiction.
- c) Please refer to responses a) and b) above.