

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-388

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: AUSTRALIAN INFLUENZA VACCINE COMMITTEE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) In relation to the Observers to the AIVC, what is the process for appointment or otherwise nominating observers?
- b) Do observers comply with conflict of interest provisions?
- c) If so, please provide details of the process

Answer:

- a) The following are invited to attend the annual meeting of the AIVC, as observers:
 - Industry representatives of vaccine manufacturers;
 - Members of peak bodies, such as Medicines Australia; and
 - Relevant persons from the Department of Health and Ageing (e.g. those involved in influenza epidemiology, medical officers and TGA laboratory staff).
- b) Conflict of interest provisions are considered not necessary for these observers, as they do not formally participate in the deliberations of the AIVC or the development of the recommendation to either endorse or modify the WHO recommendation for the composition of the influenza vaccines. This takes place prior to the observers joining the meeting.
- c) Not applicable.