

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-042

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: REVIEWS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McKenzie asked:

For the year 2010-11:

- a) How many reviews were being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each Portfolio?
- b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
- c) What reviews have been concluded?
- d) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- e) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- f) What is the estimated cost of each of these reviews?

Answer:

The term 'review' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question the Department has interpreted it to refer to major policy reviews commissioned at Ministerial level. This answer excludes internal reviews which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes reviews which are conducted as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a), b), c), d), e), and f) are provided below.

a) The total number of reviews both completed and ongoing in the health and ageing portfolio in the 2010-11 Financial Year is six.

One Review is currently ongoing as follows:

<b>Review title</b>	<b>d) To be Provided to Government (Y/N)</b>	<b>f) Estimated cost (\$)</b>
<p>MBS Quality Framework demonstration reviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Surgical interventions for the treatment of obesity (\$155,463);</li> <li>– Pulmonary artery catheterisation (\$137,500);</li> <li>– Colonoscopy (\$131,030); and</li> <li>– Whole of specialty review of ophthalmology (\$187,891).</li> </ul> <p>b) To be completed March 2013</p>	Y	611,884

c) The total number of reviews completed in the 2010-11 Financial Year was five.

<b>Review title</b>	<b>d) Date Provided to Government</b>	<b>e) Date of Government Response</b>	<b>f) Estimated cost (\$)</b>
Efficiency Review of the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy and its Supporting Structures Completed 25 January 2011	25 January 2011	Not applicable (COAG decision)	191,338 (to 7 April 2011)
The Horvath Review on Adverse Events Following Immunisation associated with Panvax and Fluvax Completed 10 March 2011	10 March 2011	25 May 2011	1,985 (to 14 July 2011)
Review to improve transparency of the TGA Completed 30 June 2011	2 July 2011	No response received yet*	175,253 (to 30 June 2011)
Review of Pathology Funding Arrangements Completed 31 March 2011	Provided as part of the 2011-12 Budget process	11 April 2011	1,999,790 (to 31 May 2011)
Review of Diagnostic Imaging Funding Arrangements Completed 30 June 2011*	Provided as part of the 2011-12 Budget process	30 June 2011*	1,237,700* (to 30 June 2011)

\* This information has been revised since the response provided to Question on Notice E11-389 from Budget Estimates 2011-12 (31-31 May 2011)