

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-043

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: REVIEWS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McKenzie asked:

For this financial year to date:

- 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 completed, underway or under procurement in the health and ageing portfolio, in the 2011-12 financial year to date, is nine.

| Review title | b) c) Date of completion | d) Date Provided to Government | e) Date of Government Response | f) Estimated cost (\$) |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Review of Overseas Student Health Cover | 1 July 2011 | 1 July 2011 | 1 July 2011 | Nil |
| World's Best Practice Approach to Organ and Tissue Donation for Transplantation – Mid-point Implementation Review | 31 July 2011 | 31 July 2011 | 23 September 2011 | 149,900 (to 16 August 2011) |
| MBS Quality Framework demonstration reviews: – Surgical interventions for the treatment of obesity (\$155,463); – Pulmonary artery catheterisation (\$137,500); – Colonoscopy (\$131,030); and – Whole of specialty review of ophthalmology (\$187,891). | March 2013 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | 611,884 |
| Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research in Australia | Late 2012 c) ongoing | Not yet provided | No response received yet | Not available |
| Review of the operation of the Marketing in Australia of Infant Formulas: Manufacturers and Importers Agreement (MAIF Agreement). Procurement processes are currently being undertaken. The review is due to commence early December 2011. | Mid April 2012 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | 220,000 |
| Options for Improving the Health Outcomes of Patients Treated with Anticoagulation Therapies. | 2012 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | Not available |
| Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule (PBS) 'Statins' (lipid lowering drugs) | March 2012 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | 500,000 |

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| review. | | | | |
| Governance Review of the Professional Services Review ('PSR') Scheme. | 30 June 2012 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | 200,000 |
| Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research in Australia. | December 2012 | Not yet provided | No response received yet | 2,654,000 |