

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 20 October 2011

Question: E11-117

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: NALTREXONE LITERATURE REVIEW

Hansard Page: CA 15

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

I understand that Professor Currie specifically requested to be involved in any review of naltrexone implants. Why was he not involved?

Did the Chair of Research Committee raise concerns with the CEO of the NHMRC about the Literature Review and its accuracy and request information on why it had bypassed the research committee?

Answer:

NHMRC invited Professor Currie to review a draft version of the 'Naltrexone implant treatment for opioid dependence - Literature Review'. Professor Currie was not available to participate.

The Chair of the Research Committee acted as a conduit to make Professor Anderson aware of the concerns of others. In response, NHMRC placed supporting information on its website.